

By Peter Stoohard

Ministers who so far been preoccupied in their demands for full Cabinet discussions of the economy because Mrs Thatcher has insisted on her mandate from the Conservative election manifesto, on which both she and they were elected. They

Poland, battered by months

French geek meet

French seek pact

Durham on alert

Durban on alert

By Ian Bradley

Although Mr Benn's re-
will cause alarm among
sections of the Labour
not least the MPs, there

Photograph by Warten Harrison

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Labour Party, and Mr Denis Healey, his deputy, listening to the speakers at the People's March for Jobs rally in Hyde Park. (Report, page 2).

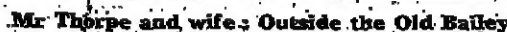
By Our Foreign Staff

ans face ban on Continent.

From Norman Fox, Football Correspondent, Zurich

damage in and out of
ground, as well as being
hended in the streets.
M. Jacques Georges, the official
International Football Federation
The English supporters were
a disgrace to their country.
There is no danger of England
being banned from the World
something different."

By Stewart Tendler and Richard Ford



The first plot came to nothing but the second grew into a conspiracy to threaten and frighten Mr Scott, a former "male model" Mr Holmes maintained.

Mr Holmes said he told the story after discussing the matter with his lawyers, a

the report and Mr Thorpe not contacted him. "I have the article carefully and from the headline which not seem to be supported the text, it does not seem have raised anything which not in evidence.

feel vindicated. "I do not think any of us can be vindicated as a greater or lesser sense of us were guilty. All one can say is I am relieved there is confirmation."

Holmes disclosure
Leading article

From Tim Jones

Northern Ireland. He was examining the car park on a lonely country road near Carrington when it disintegrated from the force of a huge explosion. The incident occurred

By Paul Runtledge, Labour Editor

£70 buys a Road Fund licence.
£250 buys a seat.
£1,000 buys a wheelchair lift.
£10,000 buys a complete specially equipped 12-seater.

Dame Barbara Ward, on

after a long illness. She was Dame Barbara, known formerly as Lady Barbara J. of Lodsworth, was a Roman Catholic, and in 1971 was the first woman to address the Vatican Council in Rome. She was a member of the Brains Trust programme and wrote for *The Economist*.

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Obituary, page 16

The Holmes disclosures



Mr David Holmes (left) as the best man at Mr Thorpe's first marriage in June 1968 to Caroline Allpass—and more recently.

How killing talk began again, by Thorpe's best man

By Staff Reporters

Mr David Holmes, the former close friend of Mr Jeremy Thorpe and his co-defendant at the Old Bailey in 1979, describes in his confession yesterday several occasions when Mr Thorpe told him he wanted Mr Norman Scott killed. He became obsessed about it during the February 1974 election when the Liberal leader was invited to help to form a coalition Government with Mr Edward Heath.

Mr Holmes, like Mr Thorpe, was accused of conspiracy to murder. Mr Thorpe was also acquitted of incitement to murder.

In his statement to the *News of the World*, Mr Holmes says the first time he heard of Mr Scott was in Mr Thorpe's room at the House of Commons at the winter of 1968 when he had meetings with Mr Thorpe and Mr Peter Bessell "about the problem of this lunatic boy".

At the third meeting he says Mr Thorpe was "frantic about the way he was being treated. He wanted Mr Scott out of the way, a job in Mongolia, anything, anywhere; and if all else failed he should be killed."

Mr Holmes says: "Bessell and I found ourselves asking Jeremy if you seriously suggested that he should be killed? And Jeremy was saying 'Yes I am'."

He and Mr Bessell ridiculed the idea. It was just not possible. Mr Holmes says that apart from suggestion of details the account previously given by Mr Bessell is correct in saying there was talk of someone breaking Mr Scott's neck and disposing of the body down a mine shaft.

In this Mr Bessell says Mr Thorpe got up to demonstrate how it was easy to break someone's neck.

There was another excitable period early in 1969 when Mr Thorpe said several times he wanted Mr Scott out of the way. They even talked about it on the telephone, but later were more careful, particularly after one of Mr Holmes's business partners found a bug planted in the office. It was an absurd situation. Those who were Jeremy's friends had to accept the burden of trying to help him. If they had not he might have gone elsewhere and this might have led to even greater disaster.

Scott 'made nuisance of himself'

Apart from the period at the beginning of 1969 Mr Thorpe's marriage to Caroline in 1968 made a big difference. She knew all about Mr Scott long before they were married and joined in discussions with Mr Holmes and Mr Thorpe. She worked at Sotheby's in the art world and was quite sophisticated about eccentric friendships.

Mr Holmes says he did not become involved in the Scott problem again until just before the February election in 1974 when Mr Scott moved into Mr Thorpe's constituency and made a nuisance of himself talking about his supposed grievances against Mr Thorpe. Mr Holmes went to see Lord Goodman and that wise man advised him to ignore it all but as the year went on this became impossible. Mr Thorpe was under great strain with the two elections and

the prospect of Liberal participation in government. He received endless telephone calls from Mr Thorpe in which he was near despair. He had become as obsessed with Mr Scott as Mr Scott was with him. He was on the phone to Mr Holmes about it twice or more times a week.

It was in the period between February and October general elections that he returned to the theme of killing Mr Scott. He could not say how serious Mr Thorpe was. "Whether he would have gone ahead if I'd found someone prepared to do it, I don't know." He doubted very much whether Mr Thorpe would have instructed anybody to kill Mr Scott but eventually the idea emerged of looking for someone to frighten, or intimidate Mr Scott and he, Holmes, finally agreed to do that.



Mr Le Mesurier: Go between.



Mr Scott: A period of quiet.

This is what he had in mind when he talked with Mr John Le Mesurier the South Wales business acquaintance, at the end of 1974. Mr Mesurier, whom he describes as a man of generosity, offered to help. Through him he met Mr George Deakin who eventually brought in the airline pilot Mr Andrew Newton who shot Mr Scott's dog.

It was all this history which made the incitement charge against Mr Thorpe true, says Mr Holmes, a charge which the jury rejected on 22 June 1979 without hearing Mr Holmes's testimony.

The jury deliberated for 51 hours and 59 minutes and the court case lasted over six weeks. The story, according to

the prosecution, began in 1961 when Mr Thorpe began a homosexual affair with Mr Scott which later seemed to imperil Mr Thorpe's political ascendancy and Mr Scott pestered the MP.

In October 1975 Mr Newton killed Mr Scott's dog but, said the prosecution, failed to kill the man. A year after he was convicted of an armed offence and on his release from prison received £5,000 from Mr Le Mesurier, the court was told, which was alleged to be half the price for the job.

The prosecution case put Mr Bessell, former Liberal MP, in the witness box first to describe how he had tried to remove the threat of Mr Scott by paying and helping him out of difficulties. He claimed Mr Thorpe held him of his homosexuality and he was present when the idea first rose of killing Mr Scott.

Defence aimed to discredit witnesses

The theme of the defence was to punch holes in the reliability of the main witnesses. The court was told Mr Bessell had told his story to *The Sunday Telegraph* of the immunity given to him as a witness and his disappearance from Britain after his business career failed.

Mr Scott's psychiatric treatment was raised in court with the suggestion that the security affair he described had not taken place. When the time came for the defendants to give evidence themselves Mr Deakin was the only one to do so. The other three elected to use their right not to speak.

Urged to return a unanimous verdict, the nine men and three women on the jury rapidly decided against the incitement charge, based as it was only on Mr Bessell's word. The main issue took much longer and eventually the question of reasonable doubt and the quality of the prosecution witnesses persuaded all in favour of the defendants.

Mr Holmes, who comes from the Yorkshire mill town of Cleckheaton, won a scholarship from grammar school to Trinity College, Oxford, where he met Mr Thorpe. After a short military service he went into business in the North of England and made an impression on the Manchester business community. He specialised in tax and finance and was at one time a director of 24 limited companies. He also did voluntary work as a prison visitor.

When Mr Thorpe became Party treasurer he appointed Mr Holmes as one of the honorary deputies. The appointments ceased when Mr Thorpe became Party leader in 1967 but Mr Holmes remained close to Mr Thorpe and was a familiar figure at Liberal conferences.

At the time of the trial in 1979, Mr Holmes was described as a business and tax consultant. Earlier this year, in January, he was described as managing a roller disco in Camden, north London, when he was convicted of incitement for an immoral purpose and fined £25 by West London magistrates.

Leading article, page 15

Trains lose first class

Thousands of rail passengers in the West Midlands and the North-west will lose first-class travel facilities from today as London Midland Region has decided it can no longer charge first-class fares on the aging trains used for many non-InterCity services.

Among services which will become second class only are those between Liverpool, Crewe and Manchester, Manchester to Birmingham, Chester to Wolverhampton, and Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth.

TEACHERS REBEL ON CANE BAN

More than 1,800 Derbyshire teachers have declared an unofficial dispute with the county council after the county's education committee decided to ban caning in schools from today.

The Derbyshire Federation of Schoolteachers have declared the dispute because of the lack of consultation by the committee over the ban. Mr Bryan Enfield, the Secretary of Chesterfield, said: "There will be a freeze on the present situation and a status quo".

Companies gain in new sick pay plan

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Families with children will still be worse off when the breadwinner is sick under the Government's revised proposals to transfer responsibility for sick pay from the state to employers. The controversial plan is to be discussed by a Cabinet committee today.

Employers are, however, being offered more compensation, and in the hope of winning the cooperation of doctors it is proposed to end the signing of short-term sickness certificates. Confidential papers to be discussed by the Cabinet's H Committee on home and social affairs today indicate that opposition is still expected from Conservative backbench MPs to the preferred solution for compensating employers.

But officials at the Department of Health and Social Security hope that the eventual net saving to the public sector, borrowing requirement of £25m from the new scheme could be used to increase employers' compensation further after legislation is introduced. That would be opposed by the Treasury, which has seen much of the saving proposed in the

original scheme whittled away to no effect in previous attempts to win the employers' support. In February, the Government abandoned all hope of introducing the scheme next year because of overwhelming opposition from industry, led by the Confederation of British Industry.

The basic scheme, first proposed in a Green Paper in April 1980, is unaltered in the new plans. Employers would still be required by law to pay sick employees a flat-rate weekly sum during the first eight weeks of illness.

The sum itself has been raised from the £30 originally proposed, to £37 a week from April, 1983. There would be no extra money for non-working wives or children, as there is under the present sickness benefit rules of the national insurance scheme.

But two new options for compensating employers for the extra wage costs involved are set out in a draft consultative paper, which will be published later this month if approved by the H Committee today, with an accompanying memorandum

from Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services. The first new option, referred to as Mark III, would allow employers to deduct half the payments made to sick employees from their monthly reimbursements of national insurance contributions. In addition, there would be an across-the-board reduction in employers' contribution rates of 0.525 per cent.

The second new option, Mark IV, would offer two levels of reduction in employers' contribution rates. All would receive a standard reduction of 0.5 per cent, the level originally proposed in last year's Green Paper, with an extra "high risk" reduction of 0.4 per cent for small companies and industries with high sickness rates.

Both options would cost the Exchequer £600m a year in compensation to employers, and the Mark III option meets more closely the actual sickness experience of individual concerns. But Mr Jenkin's preferred option is the Mark IV proposal because of its administrative simplicity, and because it would save 5,000 Civil Service posts,

1,000 more than Mark III. Mr Jenkin admits in his memorandum that the preferred option will have disadvantages, including having to justify an arbitrary boundary between "high risk" industries and the rest.

That is why Mr Jenkin wants to seek outside views by publishing the draft consultative paper.

The Mark III option is a modification of the proposal made by the CBI in February that employers should be allowed to deduct the whole of sickness payments made under the new scheme from their national insurance contribution returns.

Mr Jenkin has been advised by officials that he might win more support for the Mark IV option if the extra reduction for high risk businesses was increased to give a total of 1 per cent instead of 0.9. That may sound more attractive, and could be achieved either by leaving the construction industry out of the "high risk" category or by using the saving of £25m to the public sector as a whole.

Five killed on way to picnic

From Our Correspondent Berwick-upon-Tweed

Two men, a woman and a child were killed yesterday in a crash on a country road near Duns, in the Scottish borders, as they travelled to the coast for a Sunday picnic. Another woman in the car died later.

A sports car and a touring German bus were also involved. Two teams of firemen were called out to free the dead, understood to be two families from Galashiels.

Two people in the sports car and one of the 20 German passengers in the bus were taken to hospital with minor injuries.

Police said that the victims would not be identified until noon today, and that the German driver had been detained.

Minister enters Algardi dispute

By Frances Gibb

Mr Paul Channon, Minister for the Arts, has stepped into the controversy over the export of the marble bust by Algardi, with a public statement of support for the Government's Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art.

He has issued a declaration expressing his complete confidence in the reviewing committee and in Professor John White, of the history of art department, University College, London, its chairman.

The committee and Professor White were the subject of a bitter attack at the annual meeting on Wednesday of the British Antique Dealers' Association by Mr Julian Agnew, the association's retiring president.

The attack stems from a dispute between Mr Agnew's firm of dealers and the committee over the right export price for a marble bust by Alessandro Algardi which has been sold to the Metropolitan Museum in

New York for £265,000. Mr Agnew said he was sure he was not alone in wondering whether the committee as presently constituted and chaired, has the support and confidence of the trade which is so vital for its proper functioning.

The case of the Algardi bust goes back to November 1979 when Agnew's applied for a licence to export the bust to the United States for £265,000. The reviewing committee, which oversees the export of important works of art, in a rare move did not accept the figure.

The committee said that a fairer market price would be £200,000, presumably taking into account the fact that the dealers had bought the work two months before for £165,000 at a Christie's sale.

But before the Arts Minister could either endorse or reject the committee's recommendation, it emerged that Agnew's had been bidding in partnership

with two other dealers without informing the auctioneers and the Attorney General decided to bring a test prosecution. The case was heard in April and Agnew's were found not guilty of contravening any auction bidding law. Their application for an export licence then went ahead.

Ten days ago Mr Channon announced that the export licence was to be delayed for three months, as is usual with important works, to give British galleries a chance to buy them. But he accepted the price of £265,000 as now appropriate for the bust.

Mr Agnew, however, suggested that the committee's decision had come about as a result of a change in atmosphere which had been created by the growth of a "national heritage" group and its hysterical and fanciful fringe, which has been much echoed in the press.

Punishment room to close after staff protest

From Our Correspondent Preston

A below stairs punishment room in a former country house used as a school for maladjusted children was ordered to be closed yesterday.

The use of the bare stone-walled room without windows or a light switch was revealed by staff who complained to the Lancashire County Council's education committee. Two teachers have resigned over the issue.

Mr Andrew Collier, chief education officer, said after the governors had held a two-day inquiry: "It is not to be used ever again."

The inquiry heard allegations by a teacher that Mr John Wiles, aged 50, headmaster of the residential school at Broughton Towers, Broughton in Furness, Cumbria, had on two occasions locked children in the room. It was about 7ft square under a flight of steps some distance from the dormitory.

The mother of a boy aged nine who was locked in for a night in February now wants to see the room for herself. Mrs Edith Skaise, from Skelmersdale, said that she was told at the inquiry that the room where her son Alan was kept was clean, dry and warm.

She said: "At the time I did not know it was happening. I was just told he was being disciplined for running away. I would never have locked him up like that."

But she added: "Alan gives me the impression that he is quite happy there and gets on well with the teachers, and members of the staff. I am inclined to think it was an error of judgment rather than premeditated."

Mr Collier said that the governors had asked him to monitor the situation. He will make another report in six months.

He said: "I would only condone the use of such a room for a special period of time, 15 or 20 minutes, where a youngster became over-excited." Mr Wiles said last night: "I am not saying anything; only to confirm that the inquiry has taken place."

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Guidelines offer sound ideas to deaf viewers

By Kenneth Gosling

Guidelines on the provision of sub-titling for deaf viewers have been produced at Southampton University after three years' research.

The Independent Broadcasting Authority had a share in commissioning the research, which was believed to be the most extensive undertaken into the preparation and presentation of sub-titles for the deaf and hard of hearing.

The techniques it describes may have relevance to second language captioning of television and film material, the IBA says.

The authority says it also hopes to extend captioning to live programmes, the royal wedding is an example, and to set up an international caption exchange project.

One of the difficulties concerning the time it takes to caption programmes. One hour of captions takes 20 to 35 man hours to prepare. Another is that the Palantype style titles, such as Mr Jack Ashley, the deaf MP, has used to follow debates on a screen, do not accurately represent the English language.

"It is a shorthand form that takes a bit of getting used to," a spokesman for the authority said. "There is a lot of work involved in computer processing the report on the researchers recommends that sound effects should be captioned, for example, roar from crowd. Flashing characters are recommended for 'rhythmic' sound effects, like knock knock, ding dong, tap tap."

Humour is hard to deal with so much from editing that they are best left alone. As for transcribing dialect, the resources for transcribing such felicitous phrases as "e 'im on 'is 'ead" are extremely limited.

Idioms are also hard to handle. A readily available translation, if available, should be used. "He gets my goat" becomes "he annoys me". Copies of the guidelines are available from IBA Engineering Information Services, Crawley Court, Winchester, Hampshire, SO2 2QA, or Independent Television Companies Association, Knizton House, 56, Mortimer Street, London W1N 8AN.

BMA to launch inquiry on value of civil defence

The British Medical Association is to launch a detailed inquiry into the medical effects of nuclear war and whether the Government's civil defence plans are of any value.

The decision was taken by the 600 doctors at the BMA's annual representative meeting in Brighton with only four votes against.

Aside from other government spending on civil defence, the Department of Health and Social Security is providing £400,000 to help authorities to organise health services in a nuclear war, but some doctors are questioning whether effective health care can be given after a nuclear attack.

The inquiry is to be headed by Sir John Stallworthy, chairman of the BMA's board of science, who yesterday described it as probably the most important task the board had undertaken. Expert witnesses would be co-opted if necessary and an assessment made of all the international evidence.

Doctors, he said, were informed about the medical effects of nuclear war, although such knowledge might be the only hope for survival.

Sir John made it plain that he would not consider requests not to publish information on the grounds that it might panic the public. "If we find something which we believe ought to be published, then we would publish it."

A background paper put to the Board of Science describes the probable outcome of the Government's existing plans for the health service as "extremely dubious".

A 20-megaton explosion over central London would either destroy or put out of action all the main central London hospitals and those as far away as Whips Cross and St. Helier, Carshalton, would be seriously damaged by blast alone.

"It is anticipated that bomb shelters in cities under nuclear attack would be useless owing to the blast, heat and radiation effects throughout most of the United Kingdom. Shelters as far as 100km from the centre of a one-megaton nuclear explosion would become even for their occupants—the great surface fires would cook and asphyxiate them."

Plans to disperse doctors and nurses into rural areas cannot possibly succeed, the paper suggests. Such an operation could not be carried out in secret; most of the provision would be to follow and widespread civil disturbance would be likely to ensue.

During the debate, Dr. Jacques Chamberlain, a trainee community physician from Westminster, in London, told the conference that the public was being misled by documents such as "Protect and Survive".

Doctors were increasingly being asked to get involved in contingency planning for a nuclear war.

If the study came to the conclusion that something useful could be done, the public should be told. "If we feel that any semblance of human life or civilised medical services will cease to exist, then we must tell the British public that they have been and are being misled by the Government," Dr. Chamberlain said.

Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Transport, was accused of being an "accessory to murder" by opposing a bill to legislate (The Press Association reports).

Dr. Stanley Gebert, a hospital consultant, told the BMA meeting: "It is no longer the time to use polite terms and be gentlemanly about the continuous preventable carnage."

"It is time for anger, it is time to tell the Minister of Transport that his failure to enforce the wearing of seat belts is tantamount to being an accessory to murder. And murder it is—mass murder."

Dr. Gebert, consultant at Peterborough Infirmary, said that the Government's concessions such as the ban on children under 12 in front seats were pitifully inadequate. Legislators should stop playing charades and introduce the compulsory wearing of seat belts.

He was supporting a motion from Bristol doctors expressing "shock at the failure of continuous governments to introduce legislation to enforce the use of seat belts."

The motion was passed overwhelmingly.

With more than one person in 10 in Britain suffering from some kind of allergy, a clinic to help sufferers throughout the country opens in Derby on July 16 (Our Derby Correspondent writes).

It will be the first comprehensive allergy clinic in Britain and will be called the Asthma and Allergy Research Treatment and Research Centre.



Needlewomen restoring George IV's coronation robe for the Royal School of Needlework's exhibition opening in London today. Right to left are: Selma Winter, Jean Baker, Valerie Gamlyn and Mary Meredith.

Palace birthday party for Lady Diana

Lady Diana Spencer will celebrate her twentieth birthday tonight with a small party for friends and family at Buckingham Palace.

Guests will include her mother, Mrs Frances Shand Kydd, and her sisters, Lady Jane, who is married to Mr Robert Fellowes, the Queen's assistant Private Secretary, and Lady Sarah.

Lady Diana had considered holding the party at Highgrove, the Prince of Wales's country home in Gloucestershire, but decided that Buckingham Palace was convenient for her guests.

The Prince, who is in Newcastle upon Tyne today opening an exhibition organized by the city's council for the disabled, will return to London this evening for the party.

It was revealed yesterday that Broadlands, the family home of the late Lord Mountbatten, will be closed to the public for the week of the royal wedding. That has led to speculation that the couple plan to spend some time there after the wedding.

In November, 1947, the house was used by the Queen, then Princess Elizabeth, and Prince Philip, for the start of their honeymoon.

The actress Lorraine Chase will join the BBC radio commentators in royal wedding broadcasts on July 29, the Press Association reports. She will team up with Terry Wogan, Wynford Vaughan-Thomas, Peter Jones, and Rolf Harris. Robert Hudson will be inside St Paul's Cathedral.

Boy killed after fall QC says

From Our Correspondent St Albans

Bernard Macanaspie told the police that he killed Stephen Edmondson after the boy fell down a chest of drawers, St Albans Crown Court was told yesterday.

Mr Macanaspie said he panicked and stabbed the boy to stop him twitching, the prosecution alleged. Then he undressed the body to make it look like a suicide and dumped it in a field.

Mr Macanaspie, aged 29, of Milwards, Harlow, Essex, pleads not guilty to murdering Stephen, aged nine, who lived next door. His plea of guilty to manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility has been rejected by the prosecution.

Mr Martin Graham, QC, for the prosecution, said that Mr Macanaspie later changed his story and said he had been working in his loft. As he jumped down he landed on Stephen who was standing on the banister trying to get into the loft.

Mr Macanaspie had said at one stage that he intended to tell Stephen's mother what he had done.

Mr Anthony Edmondson, the boy's father, told the jury of his friendship with Mr Macanaspie and how their families had gone on holiday together to Great Yarmouth. After Mr Macanaspie's wife had left him, Mr Edmondson said, he could have made his house his house.

The hearing continues.

45 years inside. Life and crimes of top burglar

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

At 69 years old, William Featherstone, top people's burglar, has decided to retire after spending 45 years of his life locked up.

He has been on bread and butter since the roof of Dover, moor demonstrating about "brutality", and got himself into trouble for protesting at an official flogging by smashing the doctor's and governor's windows, calling them fascists.

He has watched condemned men at exercise and knew by a light in a room kept for the hangman's overnight stay when he had come. He has seen prisoners quarrelling over the remains of a condemned man's special dinner, left outside his cell for collection.

He has tried to escape four times, once through a window in the High Court, but never got very far, not even when he made his getaway down Fleet Street, shouting "stop thief".

What spurred him on in his criminal career was a wish to pull off "the jackpot", to give him the freedom that paradoxically he lost. Brought up in the depression, he wanted to avoid grinding poverty.

The jackpot he got to was a £32,000 post office raid in 1957, but an elderly woman in a darkened window opposite noticed him and his partner, loading the proceeds into a car, even though they were wearing postmen's uniforms. The result: 14 years in prison.

He had subverted an upright mine official into telling him how to use explosives. Until the train robbers came inside.

Mr Featherstone: University of crime at museums.

Safeflowers were the prison bribe, because they got the biggest hauls.

William Featherstone's working gear was denim, a Balclutha helmet, rubber-soled shoes and cheap gloves—all to be disposed of later. His targets were chosen by reading the "social gossip" pages of the *Express*, the *Tatler* and *Harpers & Queen*. Women got out their best jewelry from safe-deposits for the big occasion.

To learn about silver (George III and IV is his favourite) and Meissen and Sevres porcelain he has visited museums—"my university of crime".

His elementary school of crime was a tough reformatory school in 1927, where he had been beaten, and Borel in 1932. He



scorns the idea that locking up people with villains can reform them. "They talk about crime as journalists talk about journalism when they get together, and doctors, medicine."

Not only did he have to put up their hands to ask permission to speak. That did not deter him either. He has been in prison on and off ever since.

He says: "I was lucky enough to meet a man from Australia who told me about 'the lead'. It was his first lesson in how to use a piece of celluloid in place of a lockpick. Others told him how to 'case' a likely target, looking for a note to the milkman, accumulating newspapers, the light that does not come on at the usual time, then looking up the telephone number in *Who's Who* and trying it to see whether there is a reply. He was told to avoid places with guard dogs."

He broke into Lord Oliver's home to steal silver, having discovered his movements by reading *The Stage* and *Variety*. Lord Harwood's home escaped because an unexpected musical soiree was being held there, and instead an invitingly open kitchen window nearby led to the theft of mink and jewelry.

Corporal Ivor Hirst, aged 25, of BPO, Germany, was jailed for a total of 12 months on the same charge. The judge heard he had a previous firearms conviction. Hirst was also cleared of conspiring to kill or maim.

The jury on Monday acquitted the three of conspiracy to murder.

Charges against the three of conspiring to cause grievous bodily harm were dropped.

Two freed in trial of soldiers

Rifleman Neville Edmondson, aged 20, was yesterday cleared of conspiring to kill or maim the man accused of murdering his nine-year-old cousin.

Mr Justice Taylor at the Central Criminal Court passed a three months sentence suspended for two years on him for possessing firearms without lawful authority.

Sentencing him the judge said: "I take the view that your life would hope and expect it will never be repeated."

The prosecution alleged that the three intended to use them to storm Harlow Magistrates' Court where Mr Bernard Macanaspie, aged 29, was appearing accused of killing Steven Edmondson, a schoolboy from Harlow.

Rifleman Gary Rozier, aged 21, of Copenhagen Place, Christchurch, New Zealand, was also cleared of conspiring to kill or maim but received a three months suspended sentence for possessing firearms.

Corporal Ivor Hirst, aged 25, of BPO, Germany, was jailed for a total of 12 months on the same charge. The judge heard he had a previous firearms conviction. Hirst was also cleared of conspiring to kill or maim.

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'Romans' case called bid to get round law

By Frances Gibb

Nudity in theatre and films is commonplace nowadays and one cannot try to turn back the clock by manipulating the criminal law, Lord Hutchinson of Lullington, QC, told a magistrates' court yesterday.

Scenes of simulated sexual behaviour were seen in places throughout the world. "One may disapprove, but that is the climate of opinion in which this matter must be judged," he said.

Lord Hutchinson was speaking at the end of the committal proceedings at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court in which Mr Michael Bogdanov, director of the National Theatre's production of *The Romans* in Britain, was committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court.

Mrs Mary Whitehouse, the anti-pornography campaigner, is bringing a private prosecution under the Sexual Offences Act 1956, alleging that Mr Bogdanov procured the commission of an act of gross indecency by two actors who simulated an act of gross indecency between a Roman soldier and a Roman woman.

Mr Bogdanov has pleaded not guilty.

"This is a very serious matter indeed for this young, talented director," Lord Hutchinson told Mr Kenneth Harrison, the magistrate. "It is a dreadful thing for him to be brought to court and for it to be said he procured an act of gross indecency between two persons."

He urged that all the circumstances of the case be looked at. "I submit that this act of simulated rape, set out in his play, was not done, and everybody agrees it was not done, with any kind of prurience or titillation."

"It was performed straightforwardly and the hand of the soldier was over his penis and the penis remained not erect throughout this half minute, and the second man was struggling and when he breaks away, it is quite clear the attempted rape has failed."

Lord Hutchinson argued that Mrs Whitehouse's prosecution was a deliberate attempt to circumvent the law. The Sexual Offences Act was designed to deal with real sexual offences amounting to a public nuisance and it was absurd to apply it to a stage performance.

"If the Act could be applied in that way, then any person involved in a play, film or broadcast, where there is an act that could be considered as gross indecency would then be committing a criminal offence."

Not only was the Act inappropriate, it contained an anomaly that it only applied to men, and if Mr Bogdanov had been a woman, the case could not have been brought, he said.

Mr John Smyth, QC representing Mrs Whitehouse, and Mr Graham Ross-Cornes, her solicitor, both described to the court the half-minute scene in great detail which they maintained was without doubt an act of gross indecency.

It involved a scene where three Celts, naked after a swim, are disturbed by Roman soldiers. The soldiers kill two of them and assault the third, cutting his shoulder and buttock.

They then strip off their clothes. One soldier lifts the Celt's buttocks by putting his arms round his torso. A second turns "somewhat away" and makes "masturbatory movements". He turns back, "anonymously holding his penis" and makes "thrusting movements".

Mr Smyth said: "One asks the question, on the undisputed facts here, can one imagine anything more grossly indecent, subject to the fact, obviously, that this was simulated?"

Kissing is one thing, but when one gets down to a man's genitals, it is obvious one moves into the realm of gross indecency.

It was also irrelevant that the Attorney General had not commenced a prosecution under the Theatre Act, which was a private prosecution or what the audience reaction was.

"The question is: This is an undisputed act of homosexual rape; is it prima facie grossly indecent? If it is, then the thousands of people who saw it thought it was a very good thing, and neither here nor there."

Mr Smyth asked what the position would be had Sir Peter Hall commissioned a play about paedophilia, involving child actors. "Is it to be said that this sort of behaviour, a boy of under 16 could not be prosecuted under this act?"

"What if there was a simulated act in the street, in a street theatre, could it then be said that because it was simulated, it was not gross indecency? In our submission this would be absurd."

Fear keeps Londoners indoors at night

By Stewart Tandler Crime Reporter

A grim picture of Londoners' experiences and conceptions of crime was painted yesterday in a survey carried out for Capital Radio. Nearly a quarter of adults are afraid to go out because of street crime and in the inner city area the figure rises to almost a half.

The survey of 689 people reveals that a large number of crimes may never be reported to the police, that Londoners believe public transport is dangerous at night, and that old people often feel they are at risk. The police are still widely supported and more jobs, stiffer sentences and a return to National Service are seen as antidotes to the problems of crime. The survey suggests a mugging or assault takes place every 14 minutes.

It estimates that a quarter of Londoners have been affected by crimes ranging from burglary to mugging and assault. Official figures put the number of cases of mugging or assault at 100,000 last year but the Capital Radio survey suggests another 300,000 were not reported.

Fifty-five per cent of the elderly say they try to avoid the young out of fear and 30 per cent of female old age pensioners are careful about their movements for fear of attack.

In general the survey showed that 76 per cent of Londoners believe that public transport is no longer safe at night. Sixty per cent of those questioned said that the threat of violence affected the way they lived.

Questioned about the reasons young people are involved in street crime and violence, 45 per cent blamed parents for bad training and discipline. The same percentage of young people blamed unemployment.

As solutions, 72 per cent were in favour of more money for jobs, 70 per cent supported more police on the streets, 65 per cent wanted stiffer sentences and 64 per cent were in favour of National Service.

Just over 60 per cent of those surveyed were also in favour of a return to the death penalty and 52 per cent supported censorship of violence on television.

In examining personal responsibility, the survey also discovered that almost a quarter of those surveyed admitted accepting too much change in a shop, 27 per cent travelled on public transport without paying and 2 per cent helped themselves to things at a shop.

Seventy per cent of the people questioned believed that the police could be trusted and 63 per cent believed that most policemen were not corrupt. Over 90 per cent thought the police still did a good job and 70 per cent thought they did not use too much violence.

Forty-two per cent thought the police were prejudiced against blacks and 30 per cent thought that anyone young, black or poor was treated with severity by the police.

SCHREIBER WINS LIBEL CASE

Mr Chaim Schreiber, head of the Schreiber, furniture and Hotpoint organizations, was awarded £5,000 libel damages against Thames Television yesterday over allegations of price fixing.

A TV Eye programme had claimed that Mr Schreiber and Hotpoint contravened the Resale Price Maintenance Act by threatening to withhold deliveries to the Comet discount chain. Comet agreed not to sell at less than the manufacturers' minimum prices.

Hotpoint, joint plaintiffs, in the High Court action, were awarded £500 damages, and, with Mr Schreiber, costs estimated at £100,000.

Mr Schreiber told Mr Justice Cynan and a jury that he was opposed to the Act, but denied he had acted outside it.

After the hearing he said he was opposed to price manipulation and "loss leadership" in which, he said, British quality goods are sold at particularly low prices to tempt buyers into a shop.

"This victory is not only for me but for many of my colleagues in British industry," he said.

Richard Hartley, QC, for Thames Television, told the judge an appeal would be considered.

The Night Sky in July

By Our Astronomy Correspondent

Mercury will reach greatest elongation as a morning star on the 14th, but will rise only about an hour before the Sun and is not likely to be seen.

Venus will be setting in the evening more than an hour after the Sun, its maximum altitude is -3.3, so it should be possible to find it if the sky is clear.

Mars will be rising at about 02h and will pass from into Gemini during the month. It is not very bright and rather unlikely to be seen in the morning twilight, though the waxing Moon will be 3° south of it on the 29th and may serve as a guide.

Jupiter is now well to the west and will be setting about midnight. Moon just north of it on the 7th at 20h but will have passed it by dark.

Saturn, a close companion of Jupiter this summer, will also be setting before midnight. Moon just north of it at 23h on the 7th. The two planets will be in conjunction just over a degree apart on the 30th, Jupiter overtaking Uranus and Neptune will be setting at about midnight and 02h respectively.

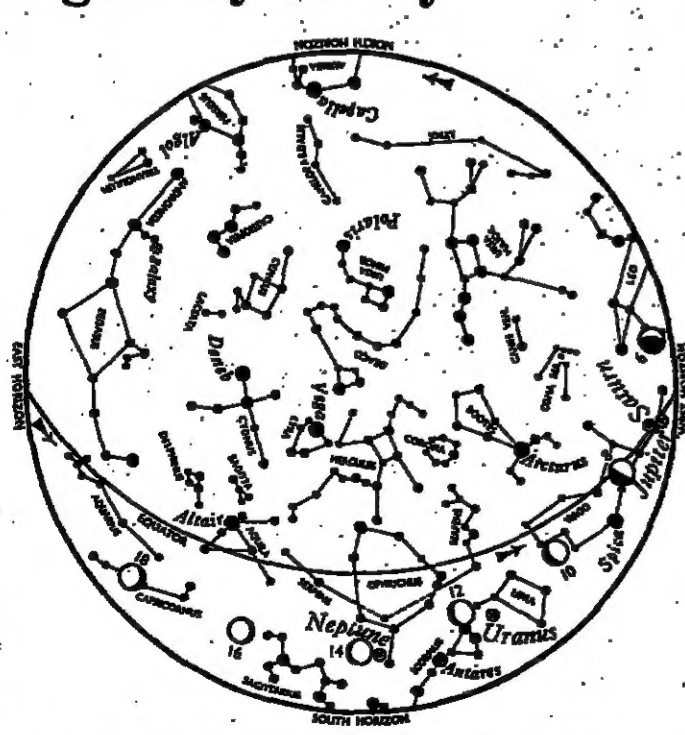
The Moon, now, 1419h; first quarter, 900h; full, 1700h (eclipse); last quarter, 2410h; new, 3104h (eclipse).

The Earth will be at aphelion, its greatest distance from the Sun, at 342h. Asteroid 1981 DA will last all night over most of the British Isles until the end of the month.

The eclipses this month will be of little interest to most of our readers. The partial eclipse of the Moon on the 17th, the northern part of it, will last from 03h25m to 05h09m but the Moon will set at about 04h. The track of the total eclipse of the Sun on the 11th lies over northern Africa and no part of the event will be visible from the United Kingdom, though a partial eclipse will be seen at sunrise from Scandinavia and eastern Europe.

The Perseid meteor shower, though really a summer event, may begin any time from July 25th, but the radiant somewhat north of Perseus will be low in the north-east until well after midnight.

When facing south the Vega-Deneb-Altair triangle is unmistakable on your left, and Arcturus on



The diagram shows the brighter stars of the night sky in July. The diagram is a circular map with labels for stars like Vega, Deneb, Altair, Arcturus, and constellations like Perseus, Cygnus, and Lyra.

your right should be easy to pick. Between the two, quite high in the sky are Corona which has a recognizable shape and Hercules which has not. The figure in old star atlases is that of the Greek hero kneeling on his right knee with arms outstretched and a club in the right hand. The star nearest to Hercules (see map) is alpha in the head; the one nearest to Serpens is the right shoulder; the line under the name Corona is the right leg. Note that the head is nearer the horizon than the legs; he is upside down!

The constellation is only 30° north of the celestial equator, so we in latitude 50-6° have to face

Defence computer language unreliable, professor says

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A leading computer scientist, Professor Antony Hoare, professor of computation at Oxford University, has given a warning that a computer language for controlling the defence and nuclear networks of the United States and Nato is unreliable.

He has pleaded for such computer programming language not to be used, where reliability is critical, for the control of cruise missiles, early warning systems, anti-ballistic missile defence systems, and nuclear power stations.

Professor Hoare says: "The net result of go astray because of a programming language error may not be an exploratory space vehicle on a harmless trip to Venus. It may be a nuclear warhead exploding over one of our cities."

A computer language generating unreliable programme constitutes, in his opinion, a far greater risk to society than unaccidental leaks at nuclear power stations.

The programming language is called Ada. It was originated by an informal team of experts called the European Long Term Procedural Language Group, and has been chosen by the United States Department of Defence for all future computer projects for the army, navy and air force.

The reliability of Ada has been a subject of controversy in academic circles, but Professor Hoare brought the argument to public notice in a recent address on receiving the A. C. M. Turing award, one of the highest prizes for technical contributions to computer science.

One of the creators of Ada who challenges the allegations about its safety is Professor Ian Pyle, chairman of the department of computer science at York University. He is also a member of a group of academics and industrial computer experts who have formed a group called the UK Ada Consortium, to explore the language for research and teaching and for defence and commercial applications.

Professor Pyle told *The Times* that Ada will make it easier to detect computer faults. He said: "It was not possible to achieve the original goal of devising a simple language. But that does not mean it cannot be used to design good computer systems."

Yet it is the complexity of Ada, which has left Professor Hoare, who is a member of the European Long Term Procedural Language Group, and Edgar Dijkstra, of the Netherlands, one of the world's leading figures in the design and definition of programming languages, to describe it as baroque and dangerously unwieldy.

The origins of the argument lie in the attitudes to programming languages over the past 25 years in which computers have evolved. For much of that time the programming and software part of the machine systems have been seen as less important than the electronic equipment.

One consequence is that more than 1,400 computer programming languages have emerged world-wide.

An audit by the American Department of Defence in 1975 showed that 10 per cent of its budget was spent on computers, and the lion's share of more than \$3,000m was on programming teams for the maintenance and modification of software.

Hence the invitation was issued by competitive tender.

The Ada, which was developed by the European language group, with support from the European Commission, and centred on the French computer manufacturer CII-Honeywell-Bull.

Wrestler wins fight for damages

From Our Correspondent, Leeds

Masambula, the wrestler, yesterday won his court action against a firm of match promoters and a ring constructor for a back injury he received during a fight.

He was awarded £20,710 damages after his claim that his injury was sustained in a faulty ring was upheld by Mr Justice Skinner in the High Court.

After the hearing, Masambula, whose real name is Mam Buma Jeng, said: "I have proved my point, but I am still the loser. I can never wrestle again, my love life is ruined and the wrestling world has turned its back on me."

"No amount of money can compensate me for that."

Masambula, aged 37, was injured when an opponent, Judo Pete Roberts, threw him against a corner post during a match at Preston, Lancashire, in February, 1975. He now walks with a stick.

The judge ruled that the faulty book in the corner of the ring was the cause of the wrestler's injury. He said the book should have been retracted on impact and acted as a shock absorber.

Masambula regarded himself more as an entertainer than a wrestler. The judge ruled that Morrell and Berezford, Limited, of London, the promoters, and Mr Billy Shindfield, of Alfreton, Derbyshire, the ring constructor, had failed to take reasonable steps to see that the hook would not fail. Both defendants had been negligent.

He said the match promoters were to pay one third of the damages and the ring constructor two thirds, but he granted Morrell and Berezford a stay of execution for 21 days pending consideration of an appeal.

Masambula's final fight was "arranged" by Mr Ernest Lofthouse, the master of ceremonies in the court heard. Masambula was due to be counted out in the fourth round. But last night he would not elaborate about fight rigging. "If the public knew what really went on it would ruin their enjoyment of the game," the wrestler said.

Masambula, who was once the favourite wrestler of football hooligans, now lives on social security at Buttershaw, Bradford, West Yorkshire.



Masambula in his prime, wearing his leopard skin head-dress.

Louder cheers for police than the King in Barcelona

From Richard Wigg, Barcelona, May 31

There was more applause for the paramilitary Civil Guard than for King Juan Carlos here today during the Armed Forces Day parade in which 13,000 soldiers, sailors, airmen and police took part.

As the Civil Guard marched past the King in Barcelona's tree-lined main avenue, the well-dressed wives of top service officers stood up in their grand cheering and throwing rose petals down on the officers and men.

The women shouted "Long live the brave ones". At a stand close to the King, members of Catalonia's autonomous regional government remained motionless and tense-faced.

Cheers also rang out from the balconies of the luxurious blocks of flats along the avenue as well as from large crowds behind the crash barriers.

Some shouts were heard in favour of Colonel Antonio Tejero, who led the assault on Parliament during the February coup attempt, and General Jaime Milans, the Valencia captain-general, who, like the colonel, is charged with military rebellion.

When the King and Queen Sophia descended from the tribunal at the end of the march and made their way up the avenue in an open Rolls-Royce, there were respectful shouts of

"Long live the King", but the applause was noticeably less vehement.

Although crowds of a respectable size have turned out for ceremonies during the royal visit to Barcelona this weekend, there has been no mass demonstration to show the city's appreciation of the King's role in stopping the coup in its tracks. Both Señor Jordi Pujol, the Catalan Chief Minister, and the Socialist mayor of Barcelona had called for such a demonstration.

At the historic town hall yesterday Señor Narciso Serra, the mayor, made a clear appeal to King Juan Carlos to continue his mediating role between the authoritarian-minded armed forces and the forces of democracy. In his reply the King skilfully emphasized that regional autonomy could be a force in strengthening Spain's unity and democracy.

The size of the crowd, and its response was disappointing. At that very moment there were heavy traffic jams on the road south from the city to the coastal resorts, just like any other Saturday lunchtime when the weather is fine.

This relative popular indifference contrasts with the surprising degree of support for the Civil Guard shown by those who stayed behind to see the parade.

'Lost' Grieg work played

Bergen, May 31.—A 118-year-old symphony by Grieg has been performed for the first time despite the composer's wish for it never to be played. The score of the Symphony No 1 in C Minor was borrowed by Mr Kjell Skylstad, an Oslo University researcher, from the library. He duplicated it and took it to Moscow where he arranged a rehearsal.

Mr Skylstad made a recording of the work and presented it to Norway's state radio. At the same time the Russians announced they would delay broadcasting their performance if the Bergen Orchestra would play the symphony.

The 37-minute work was broadcast live yesterday over Eurovision. Karsten Andersen, the conductor of the Bergen Orchestra, said: "The audience was very excited. It is a good symphony, as good as the early Schumann and Schubert symphonies".—UPI.

SALVADOR SECURITY CHIEF DIES

San Salvador, May 31.—The head of security for El Salvador's Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been shot dead on the roof of his home during an attack by unidentified gunmen.

A band of about four men armed with automatic weapons killed the security man, Ernesto Antonio Granados, aged 27, and his mother, yesterday but a third member of the family was able to flee to safety.

In Havana, the Cuban news agency reported that Mr Edward Broadbent, vice-president of Socialist International, was meeting Señor Carlos Rafael Rodríguez, the Cuban vice-president, in an apparent attempt to bring the warring factions in El Salvador to the bargaining table.

Mr Broadbent, leader of Canada's New Democratic Party, has visited Costa Rica, Mexico, Venezuela, Cuba, and the United States in the last week.—UPI.

Movies go odorous to lure back crowds

New York, May 31
From Michael Leapman

In hundreds of cinemas across America last night audiences tittered nervously as they waited for the figure 9 to flash at the bottom right-hand corner of the screen. When it did they lifted to their feet, cards measuring 5in by 11in, which they had been given on entering.

They scratched a pink circle marked 9 and inhaled. They gasped in disgust and a few coughed as they breathed the unmistakable stench of stale gym shoes.

This is Odorama, a film gimmick launched on an unwary public this weekend as another way of luring them from the comfort of their television sets. From a single experience, I cannot predict for it the heady whiff of success.

Attempts to make films smell have been made before. Some 20 years ago there was a technique by which odours appropriate to the plot were released through the cinema's air conditioning system. It did not catch on.

Odorama is less ambitious, the product of intermediate technology in an age of reduced expectations. On the card given to audiences are 10 pink numbered blobs embodying a "scratch and sniff" technique used for years on greetings cards and in books for small children.

It is in part an exercise in self-control. "I can't wait to scratch," a woman told her companion and had to be restrained until the signals on the screen were given.

Before the start of the film—a crude and tasteless comedy called Polyester—a scientist with a German accent explained the use of the cards on screen. He demonstrated with the No 1, the fragrance of a rose, one of the few pleasant smells on offer.

The film began. When the No 2 flashed in the bottom corner we were made to endure an unpleasant bedroom smell in keeping with the foul tone of the film.

Other smells included pizza, petrol, a skunk, gas leaking from an oven for two suicide attempts, new car leather and, finally, a badly needed burst from an air freshener.

One problem is a lack of differentiation between the smells, especially the evil ones, all of which were reminiscent of cats.

American cinemas already boast a powerful and distinctive scene of their own—fresh-popped popcorn. It tended to overwhelm the smells on the card, in most cases no bad thing.

Race to beat pirates to sunken gold

By Ronald Faux

Deep sea diving techniques developed to bring oil ashore will be used to salvage five tons of gold bullion worth £45m from the wreck of the cruiser Edinburgh, sunk by U-boats in the Barents Sea 39 years ago.

The skill and ingenuity of the underwater engineering industry which ensures that North Sea oil rigs can be installed and properly serviced, is thought to have encouraged the British and Soviet Governments to approve the operation on the Edinburgh.

As it becomes easier for the international diving industry to operate at even greater depths the fear was that an unauthorized attempt might be made to recover the bullion, which lies in 800 ft of water.

That is far from being an impossible depth for divers to operate from a bell, using saturation techniques, or for the new generation of diving equipment controlled automatically from the surface or operated by one man on the seabed in a single atmosphere robot-like structure. This system maintains the divers at surface pressure and cuts out the expensive decompression phase.

The work on the Edinburgh is to be carried out by Jessop Marine Recoveries of Yorkshire, who declined yesterday to confirm a report that they would receive £20m if they were able to salvage the gold. The outlay for the operation was thought to be about £2m.

The great improvement in deep-diving techniques was shown last January by the first "wet" transfer of two divers from a crippled bell at a depth of 500ft in the Thistle oil field 130 miles north-east of Shetland.

The two men were transferred to a rescue bell, lifted to the surface, and treated for cold while undergoing the normal decompression routine. They eventually stepped out of

the chamber none the worse for the experience.

A spokesman for an offshore diving contractor pointed out that there had been more accidents on the surface than there had been in the diving side of the offshore oil industry over the past year. Last year no diver was killed.

From this development has grown a strong group of men able to carry out tasks of cutting and welding at depths of up to 1,000ft. This ability could be applied just as easily to salvage as to construction.

Diving contractors in Britain have been watching the developments around the Edinburgh with keen interest. The outlay for the recovery would have meant an enormous risk of capital if the ship was not found quickly.

One diving manager remarked that the sea in that part of the world was extremely wild and the whereabouts of the Edinburgh were only approximately known. The cost of keeping a fully manned mother ship looking after the diving bell or remote controlled equipment ran into tens of thousands of pounds a day.

Jessop Marine Recoveries are reported to have located the place where the Edinburgh lies on its side on the seabed, and the part of the ship where the



The Edinburgh: Scuttled after being torpedoed by U-boats.

bullion was stored is also known.

Some objection to the salvage operation on the Edinburgh has been raised by the Edinburgh Survivors' Association, which has complained that it would desecrate an official war grave.

The Edinburgh's £45m cargo of gold has remained 800ft down in the Barents Sea, off Northern Norway, since it was scuttled by the Navy in 1942 after being torpedoed (Sarah Segre writes).

The cruiser, a sister ship to the Belfast, was bringing the Russian gold back to Britain in payment for allied war supplies delivered earlier in the war.

Thirty people, including eight passengers, were killed by the torpedo attack on April 30 and for three days the ship limped on with her disabled steering gear but was continually attacked by German destroyers.

A decision was taken to rescue the surviving 750 on board and then the Edinburgh was sunk.

At 800ft down it is 9,200ft nearer the surface than the Titanic, and has remained untouched for years having been designated an official war grave by the War Office.

Salvaging in 800ft of water would be nothing to America's Central Intelligence Agency. In 1974 they managed to salvage part of a Russian submarine that had sunk to 17,000ft in the Pacific.

That operation was carried out by the Glomar Explorer, a ship ostensibly belonging to the Summa Corporation which was owned by the late Howard Hughes.

There have been unsuccessful attempts to locate the Edinburgh and in 1964 the Russians claimed they had found the belongings, in a chest, of a British seaman who had served in the cruiser.

Last year the Department of Trade confirmed that there had been discussions with the Russians about the salvaging of the gold and agreement was reached last month.

S AFRICAN EDITOR DISMISSED

Johannesburg, May 31.—Mr Allister Sparks, Editor of South Africa's most outspoken liberal newspaper, the Rand Daily Mail of Johannesburg, was dismissed today in a company reorganization.

Aged 48, he had edited the morning newspaper for the past four years, during which it was renowned for its criticism of government policies, particularly the apartheid laws.

Mr Sparks will be succeeded by Mr Tertius Myburgh, Editor of the Johannesburg Sunday Times, a sister newspaper. The Rand Daily Mail is suffering severe financial problems.—Reuter.

IN BRIEF

Algiers minister survives crash

Bamako, Mali, May 31.—Mr Muhammad Benyahia, the Algerian Foreign Minister, suffered multiple fractures when his aircraft crashed near Bamako early today, Mali officials said. The French-built Mystère 20 came down in a storm. Officials said three crew members died. French officials said in Paris they had been told the minister had a broken thigh. Mr Benyahia, aged 49, was on his way to Freetown, Sierra Leone, for a meeting of the Organization of African Unity.

Rider killed

Rijeka, May 31.—Michel Rougerie, aged 33, a French motor cycle rider, was killed in the 350cc event in the Yugoslav Grand Prix at Grobnicko Polje. He was knocked down by his countryman Roger Sibille when he tried to walk off the course after a fall.

Azerbaijanis executed

Moscow, May 31.—Three officials in the Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan have been executed by firing squad for swindling the state out of more than £1.5m. According to Bazhenko Kabachy, the three involved in the conspiracy were the chief engineer at a Baku textiles factory, abetted by an inspector from the Ministry of Justice and a public prosecutor.

New Indian satellite

Delhi, May 31.—India successfully launched a satellite into orbit for the second time in 10 months. The 84lb satellite launched from an island in the Bay of Bengal, is fitted with a landmark sensor and a solid state memory system that will photograph India's surface.

Campers die in blast

Brussels, May 31.—A British mother and four of her children were burnt to death when a gas camping stove exploded near the car in which they were sleeping on a road near Ghent. Her Pakistan-born husband Mr Mohamed Ijaz, and their 11-year-old daughter had left the car to light the stove. The gas cylinder caught fire, igniting the vehicle in which the rest of the family were trapped.

£6,000 left in taxi

Madrid, May 31.—A taxi driver handed over to police a handbag containing \$12,000 (nearly £6,000) in United States banknotes and some gold objects left in his taxi by Mexican tourists today. "It has no importance, that money was not mine," the driver, Señor José Antonio Provencio Gonzalez, aged 34, commented later.

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Marchais to lead negotiations with Socialists

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris, May 31

M. Georges Marchais, the secretary-general of the French Communist Party, declared on television yesterday that he considers an agreement is possible between his party and the Socialists and that he will lead the delegation appointed to negotiate such a settlement.

"By taking stock of our respective programmes, there is the basis for a large understanding in the economic, social and democratic fields as well as in foreign policy," he said.

While not denying that differences existed between the two parties, he confirmed that the Communists considered themselves part of the presidential majority. M. Marchais seemed anxious to achieve an agreement with the Socialists in order to ensure the Communist Party's participation in a future government.

The negotiations between the two parties to reach an agreement before the parliamentary elections opened in a distinctly low key on Friday with a preliminary exchange of views between M. Jean Poperen, the Socialist national secretary in charge of elections, and M. Charles Fiterman, a member of the secretariat of the Communist central committee.

The two men will really get down to business on Tuesday. They will discuss a number of highly controversial issues such as Afghanistan, Poland, the stationing of Soviet medium-range missiles in East Europe, the rhythm and scope of social and economic changes by the new Government, and the endorsement by the Communists of a "code of good conduct" towards Socialist partners in the new presidential majority.

It was a satisfactory sentiment, in Socialist eyes, will depend not only the political agreement and an electoral understanding, but the participation of the Communists in a reshuffled government after the elections.

M. Guy Herminier, a member of the politburo, speaking on television, made it clear that the Communists did not feel committed to support a government in which they had no ministers.

He added, in mitigation of this threat, that "this does not mean in any way we would not give our support in the National Assembly to Bills which we regarded as positive. Throughout our history, we have done this in the government of the right and of the left."

The moderation of the party's demands is certainly due in a large part to the fact that it faces the parliamentary elec-

Our last interview with President Zia Bangladesh and the hazards of democracy

From Trevor Fishlock, Calcutta, May 31

President Zia ur-Rahman of Bangladesh leaned forward in his armchair, his eyes alight with enthusiasm. "Everybody knows our problems in this country are terrible but we have our muscles and we can work, dig and grow. We can pull ourselves up. With our bare hands we can achieve great things."

No one knew better than President Zia that the 90 million people of one of the world's poorest and most wretched countries needed inspiration and a vision.

He believed that his main task in life was to urge and inspire. He was intensely, though not fanatically, nationalist and was proud of Bangladesh's new independence. His life was devoted to hauling the country by its bootstraps from the mire of degrading poverty.

In his office in Dhacca in March, in one of the last interviews he gave, he told me that he had put his faith in collective effort. He genuinely believed that Bangladesh could overcome its difficulties through the unrelenting labour and sweat of its people.

"Mass mobilization is the key to it all," he said with some relish. Mobilization and motivation were his favourite words.

His army experience had taught him that strongly motivated groups of people could conquer obstacles, and he believed that what could be done with soldiers could also be done with civilians.

He set about fighting Bangladesh's apathy. He set development targets in agriculture, health services, canal digging, road building and family planning. He spent much of his time dashing about the country in his helicopter to check on progress and to excite people with his ideas.

He went to Chittagong, where he was killed, to inspect progress on development projects. His death is doubly tragic for Bangladesh. The country is once again thrown into turmoil and uncertainty and it has lost its greatest energizer. Under President Zia's leadership Bangladesh was enjoying an unprecedented period of stability, but that has now been jeopardized.

He knew that a threat to his position and his life lay in the ranks of some disaffected Army officers, his contemporaries, who had grown to dislike his policies (they thought him, for example, too pro-India) and resented his exercise of power.



President Zia meeting the Asian community of Brick Lane during a visit to London last year.

Among the people and politicians there was no strong opposition to him. The political parties in Bangladesh are, in any case, fragmented and torn by differences.

Although power was firmly in his hands, he made the transition from military to civilian ruler, and was inclined towards a democratic system. He founded the Bangladesh National Party two years ago as his political vehicle and has two thirds of the parliamentary seats.

"Marital law," he told me, "was a stopgap. I know there are risks in moving towards democracy, but we are trying to grow leadership from the bottom to the top."

He was a hero of the 1971 war with Pakistan but he was not a universally popular man. He was tough and could be ruthless. He made some enemies because he made no secret of his dislike of the corruption in Bangladesh and was determined to root it out.

As for himself, there was never any talk of corruption and his style of living was modest. He kept his family life very private and lived with his wife Khalida and two sons in a small house in Dhacca's military cantonment.

He has no obvious successor as president. There is no one who can match his energy and single-mindedness. The country is going to be rudderless for some time.

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Festive Durban goes on a massive alert

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, May 31

Police have mounted what they describe as "the biggest security operation ever seen in the country" for the climax tomorrow in Durban of South Africa's republican festival.

Tens of thousands of visitors have poured into the city where last Tuesday a bomb, planted by the outlawed African National Congress (ANC), wrecked an Army recruitment office.

Tomorrow, nearly 10,000 troops will march through the streets in a demonstration of South Africa's military might. Less will roar overhead in a fly-past as tanks, armoured cars, rockets and artillery join the parade.

Six hundred extra police have been drafted into Durban and a special task force of 200 is on stand-by duty. Colonel Leon Moller, the police press spokesman, said: "If we need them they can be airborne in minutes and in Durban in under two hours."

Police units throughout the country were on the alert in case of trouble, he added.

Tomorrow's big Durban parade will be watched by Government leaders, as well as foreign guests, including the

Bani-Sadr strongly criticized

From Tony Allaway, Tehran, May 31

A member of the three-man commission mediating in the dispute between Iran's moderates and fundamentalists has threatened to take action against those rocking the Islamic boat.

In comments that seemed weighted against President Bani-Sadr and other moderate leaders, Ayatollah Khomeini last week said that anyone attempting to overturn laws passed by Parliament or who insulted "pious Muslims" would face charges that carried the death penalty.

The commission was set up by the Ayatollah in March after the dispute between the President and his clergy-dominated rivals grew more bitter. Until now, however, it has failed to resolve the dispute.

The President was also criticized by Mr. Mohammad Ali Rajai, the Prime Minister, during a budget debate today.

"Those who studied abroad when the revolution occurred had little contact with the people. But after they returned they demanded a role in the revolution," he said. "The President studied in Paris until his return to Iran when the Shah was ousted."

The Prime Minister said that attempts to unseat the present government of Islamic hard-liners would be fruitless.

"If Rajai is unable to carry out the orders of [Ayatollah Khomeini] and the Parliament it would not be the end of Islam and the revolution," he said.

It was believed to be his first public reference to the once strong suggestion that his government might fall, but hinted that it would only be replaced by an equally tough government.

For his part, the President, over the past few days, has appeared unrepentant about Ayatollah Khomeini's implicit censure of his war of words against the fundamentalists.

Although he told a press conference yesterday he had no intention of challenging the authority of the Ayatollah, the President came as close to doing so as he dared.

"I shall not be out-maneuvred just by insults and abuse," he said, adding that he would not resign.

In an even more explicit speech at an Air Force base in Shiraz, reported by newspapers on Saturday, the President said he was not afraid of threats to put him on trial.

New find threatens to widen P2 scandal

From Peter Nichols, Rome, May 31

The P2 scandal is threatening to produce more surprises. At the weekend two suitcases were found, said to be full of documents concerning P2 members and their financial connections with Signor Licio Gelli, the Freemason now in hiding and charged with espionage and other offences.

The circumstances leading to the discovery of the suitcases in a Tuscan lawyer's office are not clear, and the whole affair is technically covered by judicial secrecy.

However, it is widely reported that investigators were told of the suitcases by a former member of the secret service, Colonel Antonio Vizzari, who is under interrogation on charges of espionage. He is said to have written Signor Gelli with files belonging to the secret services.

Italy's coalition Government resigned last Tuesday after the Socialists declared that a Cabinet reshuffle was insufficient to cope with the exposure of the "Propaganda Due" or P2, secret Masonic Lodge. Its members are suspected of involvement in oil tax evasion, bribery, espionage and the affairs of Michele Sindona, the Sicilian financier.

The contents of the suitcases have yet to be made known to the public in the way the original lists of P2 members were published by the Prime Minister's office.

At the very least it appears that the baggage of embarrassment which Signor Gelli left behind him will continue for some time to threaten the equanimity of people in high places.

Signor Arnaldo Forlani, the outgoing Prime Minister, will begin his negotiations with other party leaders tomorrow in an effort at putting together a new government. He expects to complete his round of talks by Tuesday night.

By then he should have some indication as to whether the P2 storm which brought him down is still beating too hard to allow him to return to office with some comparatively superficial changes in his coalition.

He has the comforting news that the Socialists are ap-

Prisoners of conscience



Haiti: Sylvio Claude

By Caroline Moorehead

Sylvio Claude, the founder and leader of the Haitian Christian Democratic Party, an opposition political party, has been repeatedly harassed, arrested, and held by the Haitian National Security Forces, better known as the Tontons Macoutes.

He is now in detention after a court appearance in February, but it is not known on what charge he is being held, or what sentence he is serving.

Early in 1979, Mr. Claude, who had announced his intention of standing in the February elections, was arrested and, according to reports, tortured before being put on an aircraft and deported to Colombia.

He returned to Haiti a few months later, and in July 1979, announced the formation of the Haitian Christian Democratic Party. A month later he was shot and wounded when Tontons Macoutes came to arrest him. Later, he was accused of making subversive broadcasts by radio.

In prison, he went on a hunger strike. In April, 1980, he was released.

Six months later, in October, 1980, Mr. Claude was again arrested without warning, together with his daughter, Marie France, after the Tontons Macoutes had raided their homes. His daughter was released, but when she protested against her father's illegal detention, she was arrested and is being held in prison.

Mr. Claude's party, together with the Parti Democratique Chretien du 26 Juin, a second opposition party formed at the same time, has now suspended its activities because of continuous harassment of its members.

In response to international concern about the detention without trial of political prisoners, like Mr. Claude, the Haitian Foreign Ministry has announced the creation of a human rights division. Not one political detainee, however, has yet been defended against arbitrary detention or ill-treatment.

RETURN OF THE POPE UNCERTAIN

From Our Own Correspondent, Rome, May 31

The recorded voice of the Pope was heard at midday for a third consecutive Sunday in St. Peter's Square as the pontiff himself continued his recovery in hospital.

He has been at the Roman Catholic University Hospital here since the attempt on his life on May 13.

Tourists and pilgrims who went to the hospital today in the hope that they might catch a glimpse of him at his window at the hour of the Angelus were disappointed.

In his recorded comments the Pope paid a new tribute to Cardinal Wysynski, and he was planning to listen to the requiem from Warsaw broadcast by Vatican Radio.

There is now no suggestion of a date on which it can be reliably foreseen that the Pope will return to the Vatican. Originally the feeling was that next week he would be well enough for the move.

Beirut calm shattered by artillery

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, May 31

The five-day unofficial ceasefire that had taken hold in Beirut broke down this morning when Syrian troops and Lebanese Christian Phalangist militias opened fire at each other with heavy artillery across the front line.

For more than nine hours, shells fell in residential districts of the Christian and Muslim sectors of the city as Syrian mortars opened up on Beirut from the 28-story Mur Tower, a thin, grey-painted unfinished office block that dominates the skyline in the centre of the city.

By tonight, police and hospital officials were reporting that 20 people had been killed and more than 100 wounded. Several people died when a shell hit the Riviera beach while they were sunbathing beside the Mediterranean.

This new outbreak of fighting is particularly serious since a lessening of tension across the Beirut front line—leading to a gradual disengagement of forces—was part of the framework in which Lebanese political leaders were supposed to have discussed a renewed national pact. The truce was itself part of the Arab League formula for withdrawing Syrian units around the besieged Christian town of Zaitie, an operation that was in line with the wishes of Mr. Philip Habib, Mr. Reagan's Middle East envoy, to resolve the Syrian-Israeli crisis.

The firing in Beirut came on a day after the renewed Syrian bombardment of Zaitie, a sudden and apparently purposeless attack that started on Friday night and had the Phalangists once more claiming that Syrian troops were trying to take over all of Lebanon.

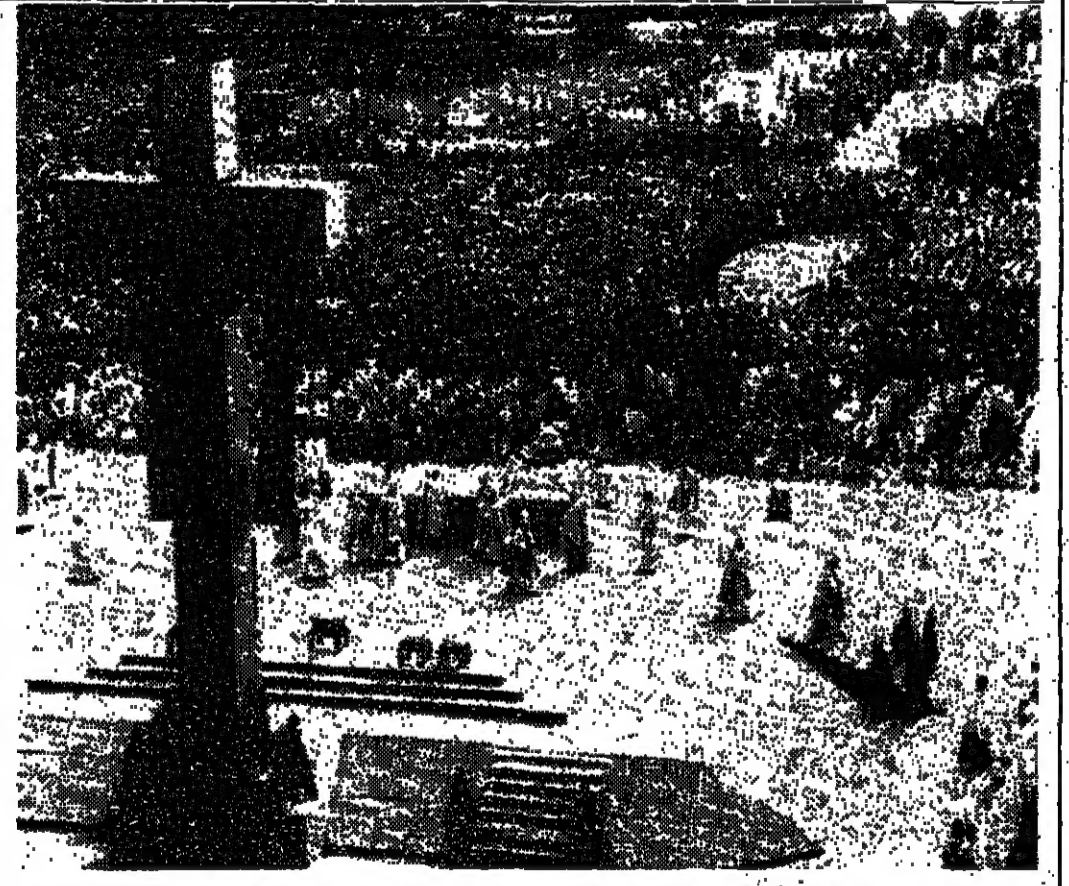
In Mr. Habib's absence, it seems, the old battlelines are being delineated anew. This evening, the shelling in Beirut was still going on.

In the Syrian capital, and in the cities of Aleppo and Homs, the authorities staged a major air raid alert, the first since the 1973 Middle East war. Sirens were heard in Damascus for 15 minutes this afternoon and civilians were ordered to stay indoors.

Motorists and pedestrians almost totally ignored the alert, sensing perhaps that the civil defence preparations—like the Syrian shelling in Beirut—were all part of Damascus's attempt to show determination in its dealings with Israel and her Lebanese Christian allies.

Surprisingly, there were no further Israeli attacks on Palestinian bases over the weekend or on the Libyan missile batteries which Israel claims are in Lebanon.

Libya announced yesterday that four Gilyans had been killed in the Israeli air strike. Another wounded. These men were all "volunteers".



Requiem Mass for Cardinal Wysynski being celebrated in Warsaw's Victory Square.

Polish party will raise no objection to man chosen by the Polish Pope

From Timothy Garton Ash, Berlin, May 31

The Polish Government knows that as the world's weakest communist regime, in the world's strongest Catholic nation, it now needs the help of the Roman Catholic Church more than ever.

Therefore, it will welcome the man whom the Pope, in consultation over the past two years with the late Cardinal Wysynski, has chosen to succeed the Polish Primate now being mourned by his nation.

By one of history's ironies Cardinal Karol Wojtyla, now Pope John Paul II, was created Archbishop of Cracow, only after local Polish party officials had rejected several other candidates proposed by the Episcopate under agreements from the 1950s by which the authorities can veto church appointments.

Now the authorities are hoist with their own petard. To reject the candidate proposed by the churchman, they approved: would be to affront the nation whose confidence they are struggling to regain.

The wide and emotional coverage given by the state-controlled media to the recent attempt on the Pope's life, and to the mourning for Cardinal Wysynski suggests that they have no such intention.

One obvious candidate for the succession is the man who flew from the Primate's sick-bed in Warsaw to the Pope's in Rome: Cardinal Franciszek Macharski, the Archbishop of Cracow. But

many observers consider that although he is a prelate of great spiritual and intellectual distinction, he has displayed a rather uncertain political touch.

Archbishop Gulbinowicz of Wroclaw might be more enthusiastically received by Solidarity, the free trade union movement, in his former diocese of Bialystok, close to the Soviet border, he is known to have been particularly active in propagating the Gospel eastward to Catholics in the Ukraine and Lithuania, a cause close to the Pope's heart.

That cause is at present represented in the Vatican by Cardinal Ruffini, the Primate of Poland.

In recent months, the Polish Primate played the kind of role more often associated with the names of Cardinal Wolsey or Mazarin. After the Communist Party leadership, strongly backed by Moscow, came out unambiguously against the demand by private farmers for their own independent trade union. The Pope and the Primate spoke out on their behalf.

On March 24, Cardinal Wysynski rose from his sick-bed to attend a secret meeting with General Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister. Six weeks later, Rural Solidarity was formally registered in the Polish Supreme Court.

The new Primate will have to decide how far he can go in propelling up the Communist regime. There is the conflict, as one of Solidarity's Catholic advisers, puts it, between the church's spiritual mission and its patriotic duty.

US MISSILE OFFICER ARRESTED

From Patrick Brogan, Washington, May 31

A 25-year-old American Air Force officer working on a Titan missile site has been arrested on suspicion of unauthorized visits to the Soviet Embassy in Washington. His lawyer says that he is cooperating fully with the authorities, with a promise for immunity from prosecution, but he has been placed under pretrial confinement by the Air Force while it examines the case.

Second Lieutenant Christopher Cooke was deputy commander of a Titan intercontinental missile crew in Kansas, one of the places where the Titans are based. He was one of the two men who held the keys to launch the missile: both have to be used in response to coded instructions. The Titan is the oldest and least reliable of American strategic missiles: it was a Titan that exploded on its launching pad in Arkansas last year.

Lieutenant Cooke allegedly made three unauthorized visits to the Soviet Embassy between December last year and May. So far he has not been charged with espionage.

A spokesman at the Russian Embassy said yesterday: "The problem is so many people come to the embassy bringing crazy plans. It's a headache for us. So we have no comment."

Captain Robert Woehl, the commander of the United States nuclear submarine George Washington, that sank a Japanese cargo ship in a hit-and-run collision in April has been stripped of his post as the embassy bringing crazy plans. It's a headache for us. So we have no comment."

\$45,000 for a Tadema

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A painting entitled "A Corner of My Studio" which Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema gave to his distinguished fellow artist, Lord Leighton, was sold by Christie's in New York on Friday for \$45,000 (\$45,675) to a private collector from Texas. The estimated price was between \$60,000 and \$80,000.

The painting was given to Lord Leighton in exchange for the latter's "Bath of Psyche", painted to decorate the entrance hall of Sir Lawrence's Grove End Road studio. It was included in Lord Leighton's sale at Christie's in 1896 when Agnew's paid 1,800 guineas for it.

Christie's two-session sale of nineteenth century European paintings scored three new auction record prices for individual artists.

These were a fine Naturalist depiction of the "Place du Louvre" by Ulpiano Checa y Sanz at \$87,000 (estimate \$25,000-\$35,000) to an anonymous New Yorker; "The Canal Venice" by Franz Richard Untermyer at \$36,000 (estimate \$18,000-\$25,000); and "At Prayer" by a group of children before a candlelit Virgin by Theophile Augustin Ribot, the French Realist, at \$32,000 (estimate \$10,000-\$15,000).

Both the latter went to anonymous Londoners. The sale totalled \$885,841 with 13 per cent unsold.

At Sotheby's in New York on Friday a pastel by William Merritt Chase sold for \$520,000 (\$529,058), a record price, at auction for the artist and for an American Impressionist.

Greeks give Americans time for bases treaty

From Mario Modiano, Athens, May 31

The Greek Government has decided to postpone the Parliamentary summer recess so as to give the Americans an extra two weeks to conclude the agreement on the future of their military bases here.

Mr. George Rallis, the Prime Minister, told a press conference yesterday that significant progress has been accomplished in the negotiations. New American proposals were expected on the remaining issues which he described as "technical".

"If these proposals conform with the Greek views, and are submitted in time for ratification by Parliament, the agreement will be signed," the Prime Minister said. "If there is no time for ratification, there is no reason to sign." The whole question would have to be reviewed by the next Government after the autumn elections in Greece.

The Greek Parliament usually rises for the summer in mid-June. Preparations for the ratification would take a week or 10 days, and in any event, the Government would prefer the unpopular question of the bases not to be the last item on its agenda.

Mr. Rallis announced that Parliament would go into recess at the end of June or the first 10 days of July. This was clearly intended to give the negotiators two to three weeks to complete the agreement, and still have time for ratification.

The main obstacle in the talks is the Greek demand for sophisticated military equipment over and above the agreed five-year list of arms that the Americans have already undertaken to supply.

The Prime Minister said the way the agreement was shaping up it would be infinitely better than the existing bases treaty signed in 1953. He refused, however, to go into the details of the negotiations.

The Greeks appear to be quite satisfied, however, with what they obtained from the Americans in the recent *quid pro quo* for the bases—the reaffirmation of United States interest in preserving the balance of power in the Aegean and in discouraging a possible Greek-Turkish war.

Mr. Rallis said that his Government was careful not to overreact to Turkish provocations in the Aegean, for instance, by shooting down a trespassing Turkish jet fighter.

Eight defect from opera

Lausanne, May 31—Eight members of Romania's Bucharest Opera requested political asylum in Switzerland last week, the newspaper *Tribuna* of Lausanne-Dimanche reported. The defections included three

سكنا من الأمل

Investigation into an embattled sisterhood

Gay Life/Skin/
Battle for Warsaw

LWT/BBC 2

Was Charlotte Brontë gay? Time, thank goodness, will never tell. But her fascinating appearance on *Gay Life*, in loving correspondence with her friend Ellen Nussey, was curiously apposite.

In fact, the programme as a whole was curiously apposite, and to a wider public than the embattled sisterhood whose emergence it chronicled. As a non-gay non-female I must tread carefully in this area, but it seemed to me that in tracing the changing connotations of the word "lesbian" it implied quite a lot about the sexuality of women in general.

As a rather sad interview with the children's writer Rosemary Manning made clear, female homosexuals born before the liberating sexual revolution carried just as heavy a burden of bitterness and frustration as did their persecuted male counterparts, but other interviews suggested that the physical side could be relatively unimportant.

The programme's oldest interviewee was a former suffragette who belonged in the latter category which has always confounded the sexologists: she had simply not been very interested in sex. The youngest interviewees brought the process full circle, as they discussed sexual sex with far less importance than loving, caring and the collective satisfactions of working for the women's movement as a whole.

That movement, moreover,

had offered a much-needed haven to another young interviewee who had felt miserably out of place in clubs run by men. For increasing numbers of females, and for a variety of reasons, males are not just different, they are irrelevant.

Small wonder, with a jigsaw like this, if two big pieces got left out. There was little discussion of the predicament of genetically "masculine" women, and no mention of lesbianism as an adolescent stage. If the programme had a weakness it lay in its intermittently slipshod manner, with talk of "solidarity on the streets".

A more overt kind of solidarity was the theme running through *Skin*, which celebrated its return with a well-timed retrospective on Bob Marley. Our own Richard Williams was among the able commentators invited to chart Marley's musical and political progress, but what this jigsaw could have done with was a couple of minutes of the Waiters at full blast. No words can even begin to convey the contagious and irresistible power of the music itself.

On Saturday night, to mark the centenary of General Sikorski, the BBC broadcast *Battle for Warsaw*, which consisted of newsreel footage intercut with interviews with survivors. Over a few weeks 250,000 Poles were shot, burnt, crushed, starved, asphyxiated or simply blown to smithereens, and thanks to some resistance cameramen, most of whom duly joined the 250,000 the event was piped into our drawing rooms.

Michael Church

Lunatic and Lover

Theatrespace, Bristol

Played in 85 minutes without an interval, Michael Meyer's encapsulated story of August Strindberg is nearly the same length as *Miss Julie*. In its tidy and seamless construction *Lunatic and Lover* manages to draw that comparison on itself, present the hostile Swedish reception to the play's first appearance there, show the roots of Strindberg's creativity in his obsessive personality and relationships with women.

It is not only *Miss Julie* which is illuminating in Strindberg's play, for it is actually only a moment on the way to many other revelations. Mr Meyer writes with a deep knowledge of his subject, earned in part from years of devoted scholarship as he translated the plays into English, but fleshed out by a sympathetic understanding of the fundamental madness that Strindberg tapped for his books and plays. These things are cut into the dramatized scenes of Strindberg's life, which move swiftly from his childhood relationships with his mother, his father and then with his stepmother, to the heated confrontations with the women of his maturity.

Textually, the play is a smooth piece of work. Ideas and emotional atrocities jostle one

another while characters step in and out of Strindberg's mind. The special attraction of Andy Jordan's production for the Bristol Express company, however, is the way in which Strindberg's thoughts take physical shapes.

Louise Beeson's designs, based on the violent images of Edward Munch's paintings, form a perfect arena for the appearance of each character as a kind of apparition. A circular stage painted over with the painted picture of a stream by Munch concentrates the attention on the actor playing Strindberg, Miles Anderson. The backdrop is Munch's violent sky from that painting, a primal wave of energy which signals the internal torment of both the painter and Strindberg, artistic outcasts who became friends.

Mr Anderson bears a striking resemblance to Strindberg, and projects an intensity that is wholly in character with the extreme contrasts of mood. In a matter of seconds his desperate idealization of one of his wives can change to a torrent of abuse. A strong comedy, which includes Lesley Davis, Anna Lindup and Nigel Hughes, prepares itself for different roles at dressing tables beside the stage, and the whole effect is of high theatrical concentration.

Ned Chaillet

Books

The Bureaucracy of Truth
By Paul Lendvai

How Communist governments manage the news (Heinemann, £6.95)

Soviet-East European Dilemmas
Coercion, Competition and Consent

Edited by Karen Dawisha and Philip Hanson (Heinemann, £14.95, £5.95 paperback)

The keen young communists who took power in eastern Europe after the war believed that when they controlled the media they would control men's minds. They have been proved wholly wrong. Far from moulding the minds of rising generations they have merely fostered profound scepticism and deepened the gulf between peoples and governments. If anything they have increased the influence of western ideas because their populations turn in huge numbers to western radio stations — or television news — for reliable information.

The eastern media are left to operate in a curious miasma of unreality. Nobody believes them, and everybody knows that they are lying. Even party officials who also listen to western radio, have to be supplied with special confidential news services which mostly contain little more than is

freely available in the western press. Yet the system grinds on because freedom of information would threaten the claim of the ruling party to be the custodian of a single revealed truth.

It is difficult for outsiders to understand how such a system works and its full significance for those who live with it. Mr Lendvai has done a superb job of explaining. He himself was a journalist in Hungary before the uprising of 1956. He now lives in Vienna but travels frequently back to eastern Europe as one of the west's best authorities on the area. His book is a calmly factual and analytical account laced with the occasional humour of the absurd, as when he recounts how the President and Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia had to be hauled out of a theatre performance to decide whether their people should be told about East German price reductions for cream and jam.

He also demonstrates the enormous importance of western broadcasts both as a lifeline for the populations of eastern Europe and in particular its relations with the Soviet Union. A very useful broader look at the rising troubles of eastern Europe and in particular its relations with the Soviet Union has emerged from a study group run by the Royal Institute of International Affairs. It examines the political structures of the area, the prospects for economic reform, the changing pattern of trade with the Soviet Union, defence, foreign policy and other aspects.

Richard Davy



John Rawnsley (Figaro) and Maria Ewing (Rosina)

Brilliant display of comic acting

Il barbiere di Siviglia

Glyndebourne

The first new production of Glyndebourne's summer season brings Rossini's most widely loved opera back into the repertoire after a lapse of 20 years. *The Barber of Seville* is always in some company's repertoire. Glyndebourne did not have to return to it until a particularly interesting cast could be assembled to work with a producer who had something fresh and pertinent to bring to the task.

Here they are. Maria Ewing, the delectable Dorabella in Glyndebourne's *Costi Jani*, has everything to bring to the part of Rosina (subsequently to become Countess Almaviva in Mozart's *Figaro*, also in repertoire at Glyndebourne just now). Her voice, "Una voce" at once proclaimed, is sultry, rich in range of expression, even in scale, from low chest notes to a blazing top C of which any Brindbill might be proud (that was heard later, in the first act finale) gloriously exact in intonation, her words clear, relished to the full.

"To sono docile", she announced, preening herself like a pedigree Siamese cat, and one had to laugh: this proud

dynamo would never entertain docility unless everything was going to her entire satisfaction. She is a brilliant comic actress, every gesture accurately timed, every change of expression on a face that can speak volumes even when pretending to look perfectly blank. I think of Bartolo's "A uno dottore" to which she contributed so much to the aria became, dramatically, as much a duologue as her real duet with Figaro. "Dunque io son", which she and John Rawnsley sang with mastery and musicianship and a superb sense of comedy, a feat for recollection to cherish.

Glyndebourne has been fostering Rawnsley for some six years, during which his artistry has grown apace. Ford, Nick Shadow, Masetto, now this Figaro, a virtuoso, irresistible impersonation, swinging effortlessly between the infinitely resourceful, and vocally in enviable condition. He seems destined at any moment for a valuable international career, in which Glyndebourne continues to guide and nurture him.

Max René Cosetti's Almaviva was less expertly sung on Saturday, somewhat taxed by so much florid music, though he looks handsome on stage and made much of his disguises.

Then Bartolo: it is not often that one hears "A un dottore" so honestly and cogently sung as by Claudio Desderi here;

furthermore his portrayal is younger, more prepossessing than usual, quite without the customary boyness, but instinct with high comedy, almost a new acquisition. All these individual characterizations, and the teamwork of the cast, to decisive stylistic purposes, result from John Cox's work as the producer as much as from the singers themselves.

Ferruccio Furlanetto's Basilio may be regarded as Coxi's comic safety-valve, well over the top so that the other characters, especially Bartolo, may carry special conviction. This Basilio, with his open sandals, long fair hair (quite un-Spanish), straw shovel hat, on which he dances ecstatically at the end of "La calunnia", before realising what he has done, is a splendid, angular, gait looks like no sixteenth-century hippy, a queer fish long out of water. He is impossible, but he concentrates all the others, and his cavernous bass is a delight.

Ever the servants, Berta and Ambrogio, often treated as wild caricatures in farcical productions, are here presented reasonably: Ambrogio is unnamed in the libretto, but he has got rid of the traditional falsetto excursions by Figaro and Bartolo, and had them properly sung.

William Mann

Feast of fanfares and serene poetry

Jubilee Gala

Coliseum

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh went to the London Coliseum on Thursday to attend an operatic gala commemorating the golden jubilee of the company at first known as Sadler's Wells Opera, now as the English National Opera.

Brilliant fanfares from Benjamin Britten's coronation opera *Gladiator* greeted the royal party on arrival. They entered the royal box to more fanfares, and then Britten's moving version of the National Anthem, sung in front of the front porch by the assembled opera company. After the final curtain-fall, the Queen was to be presented, on stage, with bound

volumes on the history of the company and its present London home.

The gala performance itself was unusually enjoyable, as such events go, avoiding the choppy, unoperatic night of as many star singers as can be played in the opening hour, instead on whole scenes from four favourite operas that have long been connected with the Sadler's Wells/English National Opera.

Most interesting, perhaps, was the *Pub Scene*, introduced by the Storm interlude, from *Peter Grimes*. Its first performance in June 1945 was the most important in the company's history. *Grimes* is not at present in the ENO repertoire, but is due to return in something like the vigorous, attentive (admittedly skeletal) state seen here. The music, spouted, hurricane-

fashion, under Sir Charles Mackerras's ebullient direction.

Alberto Remedios made a moment of almost serene poetry in "Now the Great Bear". Anne Collins as a lively Annie, Norman Bailey's bluff Balstrode, the firmly projected Boles of Donald Pilley (welcome back), and Shaleigh Spurrell's perfect forbidding Mrs Sedley, all promised something exceptional for the forthcoming new cast.

The third act of Puccini's *La Bohème*, the most cheerily sung, was a lovely, lovely evening, emotionally overwhelming, known to me in any operatic repertoire, had to have a place. It offered us no snow, an inn covered in scaffolding, and the Mimi and Mimy uncloaked for a bitter winter's dawn — bad omen: but here were Josephine Barrow, an irresistible Mimi, and John Trevelyan's romantic Bohème, and the sin in English, it is mad to translate

their French names into Italian.

From the Wells's marvellous Verdi repertoire we had the study scene from *Don Carlos*, a parade of noble singing and acting, under Mark Elder, with Linda Earle, Gray, Richard Van Allan, and John Tomlinson preeminent. As finale there was a clever digest of the best scenes from *Johny Suede*, Strauss's *Die Fledermaus*, with ballet, the Champagne song, "Du bist", nicely led by Alan Ogie, the prancing of Eric Shilling, the debauched playboy of Emile Belcourt, and Strauss's music dancing, for once in immaculate style, under Mackerras.

William Mann

This review is reprinted from Friday's later editions

Intricate and pretty

Royal Ballet Gala

Covent Garden

In spite of secrecy surrounding preparations for the Royal Ballet's jubilee programme, given on Friday and twice on Saturday, few people can have doubted the form it would take: a series of extracts from many ballets.

The performance honouring Frederick Ashton in 1970 is long ago, but its overwhelming success is still lively in memory, so how could the company fail to follow that formula?

So the only real surprise of the programme was that there were hardly any real surprises: only one unexpected guest, Antoinette Sibley warmly greeted for the duet from *The Dream* with Anthony Dowell; even the resuscitation of dances long unperformed were fewer than on that earlier occasion and contained nothing half so startling. All the same, there were some unusual pleasures.

High among them was seeing the old Ivanov choreography for the millions dance from *The Nutcracker*, intricate and pretty with Karen Pailey enchanting as the soloist. Judith Howe proved gracefully fluent in the regal trio from *Ballet Imperial*, and Lesley Collier's delicious crispness in a solo from *The Prince of the Pagodas* made that ballet's loss all the more sad.

It was good to see the Neapolitan entertainment from *Onegin* again, even though undercast on the female side; the men, led by Wayne Eagling, were fine. That ballet is overdue for revival, like *Shadow Play*, in which David Wall (returned, like Dowell, from sick leave) made a striking Satan. Other dances not seen lately were from *Nocturne*, *Le Bal des Reines*, and *Le Bal des Femmes* — the can-can, sparklingly done by Margaret Barberi and Alain Dubreuil.

John Percival

Rock for Jobs

Brockwell Park

The People's Marchers were greeted at Brockwell Park, the South London greensward which has previously done service as the venue for Rock Against Racism concerts, by the Barry Forster version of Bob Dylan's "Maggie's Farm". Now the unofficial anthem of rock and roll leftists.

The members played a solid and enjoyable set, the sound prop mixture of punk and reggae modes benefiting from Nicky Tesco's raucous aggression and from the presence of two saxophonists, whose simple but effective playing of the music a measure of sophistication and textual depth.

The arrival of Jim Capaldi and his band signalled a change of mood. Everything about their simple but effective playing of the music a measure of sophistication and textual depth.

As usual at these events, there was no estimating how many had turned up to support the cause, and how many had come merely to catch a free sight of the Townshend and George Melly and the rest of Saturday's heterogeneous cast. Ten years ago, no pop festival was complete without an appearance by Ritchie Havens, the hero and talisman of the Woodstock Nation; his performance at Brockwell Park thus heightened the sense of chronological disruption. Where were we now? Ryde Park '82, with King Crimson to follow? The Isle of Wight in 1970, waiting for the French Situationists to make another bottle-lobbing charge on the press enclosure? And where on earth had Hawkwind got to?

By this time the event was running several hours late and, with no guarantee of its completion, another engagement beckoned. It is said, however, that Pete Townshend did eventually appear, dedicating a version of Jimmy Reed's "Big Boss Man" to the marchers. Aswad, the best reggae band in the country, played for

Even with a four-hour programme, regrettable omissions were inevitable. But the choice seemed unenterprising: more than half the items were from this season's repertoire, while a whole decade of creations (between 1937 and 1948) and most of the foreign choreographers who have made ballets for the company were unrepresented.

Also, although it was right to concentrate on homegrown choreographers, the choice was lopsided: not much Cranko, no Hoppmann, Hynd, Morrice, Rodrigues, Seymour or Wright among others. Still, the new creative generation had a showing, David Bintley's *Comic Warsong* and Jonathan Burrow's *Songs* demonstrating real and contrasted talents. The latter was a premiere, previously only shown privately: music by Mendelssohn, imaginatively quirky choreography brilliantly danced by Michael O'Hare.

Michael Somes arranged the whole programme, wrote and spoke the commentary — tasks shared by several people for the Ashton gala. He gets a for effort, but it was too much for one man in particular, much crisper introductions were needed, and there were some embarrassing omissions and errors in his long, rambling lecture.

The logistics of getting so many dancers on stage must have been terrifying, with contingents from both companies, plus the junior school for Ashton's maypole dance; but there were no hitches. Similarly, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, precipitated into many pieces unfamiliar to them, coped valiantly under four conductors. Not their fault if the finale from *Les Noces* was disastrous, with the four pianos replaced through tiny loudspeakers, apparently from the other side of Floral Street.

John Percival

only a quarter of an hour before the park's attendants moved in to camp.

Over at the Venue, Joe Ely was a mild disappointment. The Texan singer and his six-piece band proved adept at a variety of styles, including rhythm and blues, modern country and Tex-Mex, northern music, but they failed to transcend the status of a competent roadhouse combo. This, one felt, was music to accompany drunken brawls and the playing of dominoes.

Richard Williams

CHRISTOPHER YOUNG
THE FINAL
DECADE
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Bunting/Solomon

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Christopher Bunting's cello recital got off to a sketchy, sometimes almost scratchy, beginning on Saturday night with his virtuoso transcription, much of it very much highlighting, of Barok's *Romanian Dances*. Schumann's *Adagio and Allegro*, op 70, was quite different, his tone being plangently expressive yet refined, his ease of movement complete.

The performance of Rachmaninov's *Vocalise* was almost an evocation of the coloratura soprano voice for which it was originally composed. Also, the variety of nuance he drew from this "endless" melody was extraordinary, as it was in Ravel's *Piece en forme d'habanera*, where Mr Bunting's delicacy in the shaping of phrases was equally memorable.

The qualities of Yonny Solomon, the pianist, attained greater prominence in Debussy's *Sonata*, which is a true duo. This received a rather quizzical-

ly masterful interpretation, with the harmonics and the pizzicato, saltando and pouticello effects made to seem wholly outlandish. It suggested not a mixture but a mosaic of emotions, their final resolution achieved through an acute response to the work's mysterious and at the same time often ironic currents. Beethoven's *Sonata* op 69 had an almost equally searching, though sometimes also mercurial, performance, with some especially beautiful playing from Mr Solomon in the finale.

Next came the Bunting Cello Ensemble. His *Fugue* on a theme from Beethoven's op 69 is scored for six instruments but on this occasion it was used. The piece is quite academic yet produces some interesting sonorities. There is better music in Mr Bunting's adaptation of the *Andante* from Faure's *Cello Sonata*, op 117, and in Chopin's *Ballade* in G minor, which is a better performance. The keyboard part is transferred to cello ensemble with some ingenuity.

Max Harrison

Berlin PO Wind

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Last week's visit to London and Oxford by the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra had an appendix, as it were, when the orchestra's wind soloist gave a recital in the Queen Elizabeth Hall. Patrons of the auditorium often complain about its acoustics. I must say that the quality of wind sound on Friday was unalloyed delight: evidently the BPO players had learnt the hall's secret, since the full ensemble texture sounded just so, and grandly balanced too.

I am thinking particularly of Mozart's *B-flat Serenade*, K 361, a party piece for his friends in the Munich orchestra, notably the oboist Ramm and the horn-player Puntz. The BPO wind band is led by Lothar Koch, who has long seemed to be the most elegant and euphonious oboe-player in the world (thought not, I think, a composer like his only contender). The first horn is Gerd Seifert, another name held in awe by

musicians. The other players are of similar calibre.

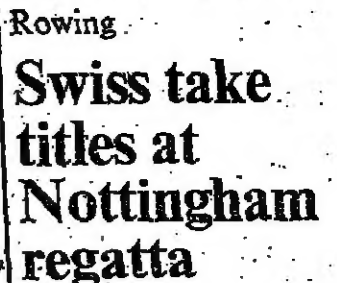
Mozart's *Serenade* could have done with assistance from a conductor, some Mozartian of supreme rank. The performance was a joy to the ear, but now and then inattentive to a moment of structural importance, a recapitulation dwarfed by an earlier climax, a reprise too literal to need repeat. Warts and all, it was memorable for the clarity and oboe solos, and the nourishing tutti quality in the *Adagio*.

In the first half these marvellous players played a suite written for them by Hermann Eder, a respected Austrian academic figure. The music instantly characterizes the wind instruments, so that each is felt as a dramatic character, part of the cast in a musical play. The scenario does not hold attention, but makes pleasant listening of an undemanding sort. Some of it could have been written at the end of the last century, much in the 1920s, little in our own decade.

William Mann

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...they move with ease from the most demanding choreography of Balanchine to the classical capers of Le Corsaire...they radiate happiness... Mary Clarke, *The Guardian*
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Gymnastics
Reward f

By A Special Correspondent

Mandy Cornall aged 19, of 10, Stang, Preston, crowned a successful year of her becoming the British champion of the British women's over-19 championships at Shavington centre, Crewe, on 19th.

miss Gornall was nursing injury that forced her to draw from the European championships in Madrid early in the month but urged on by coach, Keith Hardy, she was injury out of mind. Aldi Gornall did not display range of abilities she was noted for the elements

After the compulsory she was lying third b
rueosity in the volun
won her 36.65 marks

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Is there an alternative to the Government's economic strategy? The first of a three-part series

Undo the Budget and save 100,000 jobs

As the Cabinet hammers up for summer battles over public spending cuts, we have been looking at the options open to the Chancellor and his colleagues. In cooperation with the Economist Intelligence Unit, we have used the Treasury's own economic model to check what would happen if the Government decided to change course this summer instead of pressing on with its current policies.

The results are our own, not the Treasury's: but they provide a sort of Do It Yourself Chancellor's kit to weigh one policy against another. They show that the Government could get the economy moving more quickly and could do something to curb unemployment. But the stage has already been reached when it is hard to see unemployment coming down sharply unless the Government takes big risks of allowing inflation to soar away.

We asked the EIU to look at three alternative policies: reflation, devaluation and a combination of protectionism and a big increase in spending of the kind favoured by the Labour left. Over the next three days we shall give their results. Then we look at the most politically attractive option for the Government: mild reflation this summer. We asked the model what would happen if the Government decided on a public

If we stay as we are:

OUTPUT falls another 1 per cent by next summer, stagnates till summer 1983, then rises 11 per cent by early 1984.

INFLATION falls slowly to 9.6 per cent by early 1984.

LIVING STANDARDS stagnant till late 1983 then rise to near level of early this year.

UNEMPLOYMENT (including school leavers) more than three million this winter, then rising gently to three-and-a-half million by early 1984.

If the Government reflate:

OUTPUT stops falling this summer, stays roughly static till mid-1983, then rises 11 per cent. Runs about 1 per cent higher than under Government policies.

INFLATION falls faster over next 18 months, but not into single figures, touching 10.3 per cent in 1984.

LIVING STANDARDS get boost, then fall back before rising in late 1983. Average 1 per cent higher than Government policy.

UNEMPLOYMENT just over three million this winter, rising to 3.38 million by early 1984.

investment programme costing an extra £1,000m a year at today's prices. At the same time we cut income tax by £1,250m,

which is roughly equivalent to increasing tax allowances in line with inflation. To help industry, which has been particularly hard hit, we cut the National Insurance surcharge by 1.75 percentage points. This surcharge is particularly unpopular with industrialists, who say it is a tax on jobs. Altogether, our reflation package pumped about £4,000m back into the economy.

In effect, we looked at what would happen if the Chancellor decided to undo the effects of his Budget. The answer is that he would get some people back to work without making inflation worse. By this time next year, another 100,000 people would have jobs who would not get them on current policies. Output would be one per cent higher than is expected with the current strategy, and prices would be fractionally lower, not higher, than expected. Companies which gained from the £1,750m handout through cutting National Insurance would be able to cut the prices they charge for their goods.

There would be a price to be paid for this. The balance of payments would get worse, because some of the extra money would be spent on imports. Government borrowing would be about £2,000m higher next year and interest rates would be higher than the Chancellor expects. But in spite of these problems, the extra output would encourage private companies to boost investment. If the Government



Drawing by Ian Cox

kept on with its investment programme, not increasing it each year but not cutting it either, the benefits would grow as we approached the next election, which must be held by Spring 1984. By then the Treasury model tells us, a package of the kind outlined above would provide jobs for nearly 175,000 people.

Not all that would be translated into a cut in unemployment. Some of the jobs would go to people who do not bother to register as unemployed. But the measures could cut the unemployment figure by 133,000 by Spring 1984. They would also raise the living

standards of people who have jobs, which might be just as important in political terms as the unemployment figure.

But in spite of all these pluses for a policy of mild reflation, the Chancellor shows no sign of going down that road. Indeed, he has asked his colleagues to start drawing up lists of cuts in public spending, which are likely to depress state investment still further.

One reason for this is his growing worry that his strategy does not add up to the tax cuts which he promised throughout the lifetime of this Parliament. The EIU says that even with his present tight borrowing limits,

the Chancellor would be able to cut the standard rate of tax next year by 2p in the pound to 23p and by another 1p in 1983 to 22p. But some other forecasts, such as the London Business School, are starting to doubt this.

We assumed that the Chancellor would cut taxes over the next two years even if he decided to give a reflationary boost now. The money would come from higher Government borrowing. We assumed that the Government would make sure that the reflation we proposed would not lead to it printing any more money than it will need to on its present policies.

The extra Government deficit of about £1,700m a year, would be covered by borrowing at slightly higher interest rates. The Government thinks this would just cut down private investment, most economists disagree with them. So does the Treasury model. The effect of boosting demand is to encourage firms to invest more, because they feel they can sell what they make.

So if the Chancellor sets out to expand the economy by reflation, the economy will expand. But not by much. That is the most depressing part of the situation in which the Government now finds itself. Although our reflationary package of £4,000m could cut unemployment by more than 100,000, that is very few compared with the 31m who look likely to be without work by 1984.

No big gains without a U-turn

Paradoxically, the very scale of the problem which current policies have created may be the greatest source of weakness for the Cabinet. "Wets" will seem to be arguing for a big shift in policy for small gains in the economy. But the truth is that big gains cannot be had without a complete U-turn, which has risks of its own.

If it takes £4,000m to cut unemployment by 130,000, straight multiplication suggests it might take a £40,000m boost to bring it down near the 2m level. In fact, the economy could not absorb a huge boost in demand like that all at once.

Inflationary pressures would build up at home and the pound would slump abroad. Some people, especially exporters, might say that a falling pound would be no bad thing. Sterling is now the most overvalued currency in the world. The Confederation of British Industry is pressing for what amounts to devaluation. What that would do to our economic prospects will be considered tomorrow.

David Blake
Economics Editor

Would breath tests put drivers on the spot?

Scientists are challenging a proposed change in the drink and driving law by which breath machines would be used instead of blood or urine samples to provide evidence against motorists suspected of being over the limit. They say the new procedure would not be as accurate and more open to abuse and that it could damage relations between police and public.

The change is provided for in the Transport Bill, now before Parliament and almost certain to receive the royal assent in July. According to the critics, the use of breath machines at police stations raises several questions which the Government has not adequately answered. Until it does, public confidence may be undermined. The Government argues that the introduction of breath test machines at the police station will have clear advantages. It will do away with the need to call on police doctors—often in the middle of the night—and take up less police time. It will be fairer to motorists, who will know the result immediately and not have to wait several weeks for a laboratory analysis. And it will be particularly welcome to those people who fear the needle and dislike giving blood.

Mr Norman Fowler, the Transport Secretary, has repeatedly maintained that the breath test machines have been extensively tested by Government scientists and give accurate readings, but that even so the proposed new procedure contains important safeguards for the motorist.

One complicating factor, admitted on both sides, is that blood and breath tests do not necessarily give the same reading. It depends on the individual's physiological make-up. A breath test may show a driver to be over the limit and a blood test show him under—and the other way round.

Under the present system, based on blood analysis, the legal limit is 80 milligrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood. The equivalent for breath analysis has been fixed at 35 microgrammes of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath. But while on average "80" equals "35" in individual cases it may not.

To cover this possibility, the Government has decided that a motorist whose breath alcohol reading is between 35 and 50—equivalent to an average blood/alcohol count of 80 to 115—should have the right to opt for a blood sample instead. If that option is taken up, the evidence of the breath test is discarded and the case proceeds, as it does now, on the blood analysis. The Government disclaims that the breath machine can be cheated by a motorist not exhaling completely or by hyperventilation. A vigorous deep breathing just before the test is taken. Such stratagems were tried during the Home Office tests and were found not to work. If the motorist genuinely cannot provide a breath specimen, because, for example, he is asthmatic, he will be asked for a blood sample instead.

Even if the Transport Bill becomes law in July, breath machines are unlikely to be introduced in police stations before late next year. This is partly because it will take time to train police officers to use them and also because the Home Office is engaged in another series of tests on more advanced machines.

It may be that the results of these tests will help to remove some of the doubts about accuracy and reliability. At the moment, though, the critics are far from convinced. Mr Allan Parsons, an analytical chemist, part of whose work is analysing blood samples for drivers, says: "I am prepared to accept that the new system will be fair to most motorists, but is most good enough?"

Peter Waymark
Motoring Correspondent

'For too long we have elevated the cult of the winner'

Why English soccer has run out of steam

"The most crucial match in the history of English football" is an experience we have lived through before. What is alarming today is the increasing frequency with which it comes round. If Saturday's World Cup qualifying match in Switzerland was a game that England could not afford to lose, how shall we describe the next in the series, in Hungary next Saturday?

Defeat in Budapest would effectively, if not actually for the time being, put an end to England's chance of taking part in next year's finals in Spain—for which, ironically, there will be more qualifiers than ever before. In the short term, that might appear to be the ultimate humiliation. In the long term it might be for the best. At last English football might be compelled to face some uncomfortable conclusions. Whether any action would be taken remains debatable.

The problems are deep and fundamental. A ritual execution of the team manager would achieve little. Any successor to Ron Greenwood would still be left to work with the same raw material. He would still have to choose his team from players who lack both the technique and the tactical sophistication of the world's best, and who come to international matches driven by the excessive demands of club competition.

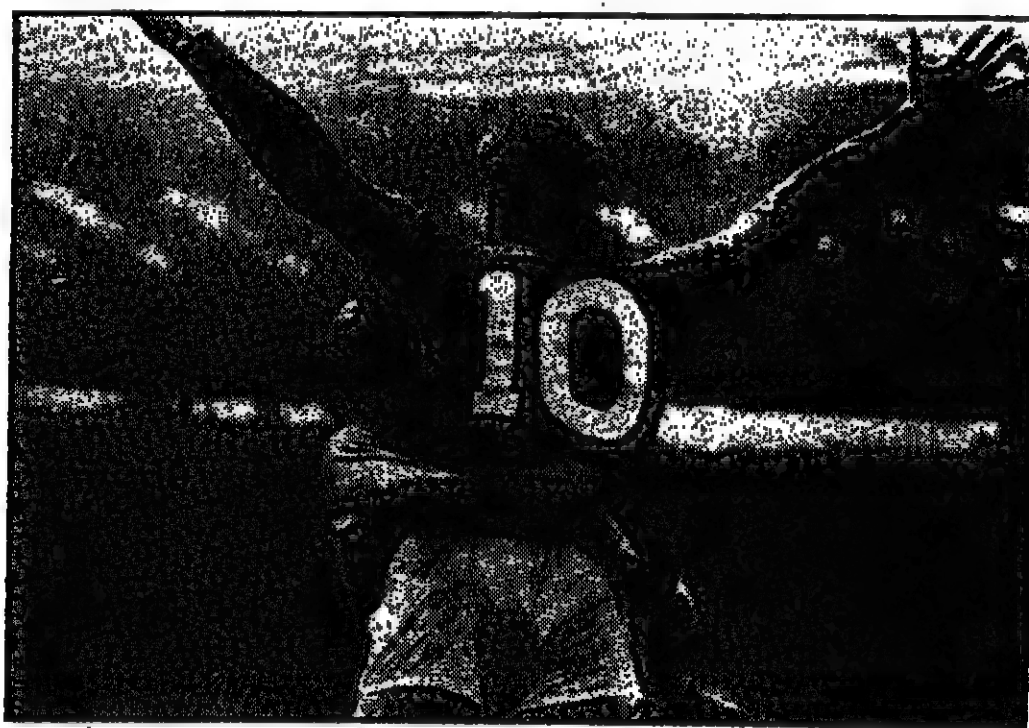
To achieve anything significant, English football will have to cut through the complacency of so much current opinion. The First Division of the Football League is held to be "the most difficult in the world to win". The success of Liverpool and Ipswich Town in European club tournaments is seen as corroborative evidence, conveniently overlooking the contribution made by Scots and Dutch players.

Nor should too much comfort be derived from the position of Wales at the top of their World Cup qualifying group. After their goalless draw with the Soviet Union at Wrexham on Saturday, Mike England, the Wales manager, remarked with satisfaction that his team had yet to concede a goal in the competition, that the USSR were "a difficult team to break down", but that nevertheless chances had been made.

Similar views can be heard at many post-match interviews.



Alf Ramsey:
the winning
manager in
the World Cup



The great day: jubilation at Wembley after winning the World Cup in 1966.

It was left to a Dutch observer to inquire whether it was impossible to compile a critical shortcoming of Welsh technique. For those with eyes to see, it was also apparent that while this Wales team is merely a more integrated harder-working descendant of its predecessors, the Soviet Union has changed its former predictable image for a fluid, imaginative style in the modern mould.

What then can be done to change the basic approach to football in Britain? The first requirement is a change in attitudes. After last week's disappointing European Cup

final, Liverpool's chairman, John Smith, echoed a philosophy propounded at Anfield Bill Shankly: "For us, winning is not the most important thing—it is the only thing."

For too long we have elevated the cult of the winner. Team formations have placed ever more emphasis on defence. Containment and restriction of space have taken priority. Cheating in the form of so-called professional fouls, encroaching at free kicks, time-wasting and shaming injury have become prevalent. Those developments have inevitably

communicated themselves to the most impressionable minds—the youngsters who will provide the next generation of professionals. Anyone who has had any connection with schoolboy football will know how much importance is attached to cups and medals and how rigidly the systems and formations of professional football are aped in the pursuit of trophies.

At some point a young player needs to learn that his own penalty area is not the place to try to dribble round opponents. But the desire to acquire and demonstrate the ability to beat players by individual skill



Ron Greenwood:
a ritual
execution would
achieve little

is central to the wellbeing of the game. When the joy of playing for playing's sake is prematurely stifled in the quest for another notch on the belt, the future is put in pawn.

While this situation obtains the refusal of the English Schools Football Association to allow schoolboys to be too closely allied to professional clubs seems somewhat hollow. At the same time, the league clubs themselves can claim little sympathy while self-interest prevents them from putting their own house in order.

The recent decision by the Football Association to continue

the bar on paid directors of Football League clubs will not encourage optimism that the long-standing suspicion which exists between the two governing bodies is any nearer resolution. While the professional core of British football continues to be ruled by well-meaning amateurs, there can be little hope of genuine progress. No one denies that the best footballers in England are required to play too often. A season of 60 or more matches leaves little opportunity to practise, basic skills or develop subtlety in team play. The time between fixtures is too often required for curing or resting injuries.

Ideally, the First Division should be reduced to 20 or even 18 clubs. But how many directors would vote for a reduction that would deprive them of the income from up to four home games? And how would the changes be made?

Would promotion and relegation be abandoned in the transitional season with the removal of incentive that that would imply? If those traditional features were to remain, would the clubs agree to a season which would see one-third of the First Division teams doomed to lose their status?

In 1968 the Chester Committee's report on its inquiry into the state of Association Football at all levels defined most of the problems and made some of the worst aspects of professionalism at the lowest levels and too little application of the best qualities of professionalism at the highest level remain depressingly apparent.

Gerald Sinstadt

Now Medvedev breaks the Khrushchev taboo

Roy Medvedev, the dissident Soviet historian, whose devastating critique of Stalinism, *Let History Judge*, led to his expulsion from the Communist Party some 10 years ago, has just finished a new political biography of Nikita Khrushchev. It is about to be published in Italy, where Medvedev's last six books have all appeared first, and an English edition is promised for the autumn. It will not, of course, find a publisher in the Soviet Union.

Khrushchev is still a taboo subject for the Russians and gathering material on this cunning, erratic and exuberant Soviet leader proved no easy task for Medvedev, who lives quietly in Moscow in a small, book-lined flat.

Official archives are not available even to historians in better favour, but Khrushchev had an extensive family who were able to help. These included his widow, Nina Petrovna, who is now in her eighties and rumoured to have become a regular attendee at the Russian Orthodox Church, and Alexei Adjuhi, Khrushchev's once influential son-in-law and former editor of *Izvestia*, now a dispirited figure with a lowly job on a monthly magazine. The main source of Medvedev's inside information, however, has been the great man's son, Sergei, now a scientific worker.

Medvedev, whose twin brother Zhores has been deprived of his Soviet citizenship and now lives in England, is a courteous and meticulous man, still a convinced Marxist and an ardent admirer of Lenin. He has had a number of brushes with the authorities and—duly—but valiantly—attempted to run as



an independent candidate to the Supreme Soviet, Russia's rubber-stamp parliament, two years ago.

Among other things, I am told Medvedev's portrait shows just how crushed Khrushchev was after his expulsion from the leadership in 1964. "Grandpa is crying all the time," his grandson is said to have told his headmaster.

Daunting design

John Pritzman, who today becomes President of the Architectural Association, has set himself a monumental task: to change the image of the architect, now about as much as the council planner's, and to see architecture practised again as it was 100 years

ago when the architect was still regarded as an artist.

Pritzman, 50, is best known as the writer of four architectural history and textbooks and the designer of Bertram Rota's bookshop in Long Acre, the Knoeder Gallery in Cork Street and Langan's Brasserie in Stratton Street.

His new post is complicated, he admits, by the Monopolies Commission decision abolishing the RIBA scale of fees and allowing architects to advertise and hold shares in building companies. Add to that the Architectural Association's reputation for controversy and varied roles—school, club and power-house for new (and often tiresome) ideas—and he will clearly have a full-time job.

Prizeman says: "The profession has changed from the days when an architect was expected to design the building and the furnishings. Architects have got themselves into a corner from doing large buildings cheaply for property developers and councils. Few are concerned with small things. They do not have a creative image. I want to change that."

All welcome

Bad news: I have not space today to give the results in my "clever excuses" competition (but I promise them for tomorrow). Better news: Mr Jack Walsley, of Peterfield in Hampshire, has sent me this extract from his parish magazine about meetings at Stroud Women's Institute: "June 18: Speaker, Mrs Carruthers—Painting on Pottery." July 16: Garden meeting at Freshwater House, Stroud. Speaker from the WRVS on "Local Affairs". No meeting in August. Why not come along?"

A star with stripes

The week's most elusive visitor to London must be John Tower, the new Republican chairman of the United States Senate's powerful Armed Services Committee. He is in Britain for a few days but no one, not even the United States Embassy, knows who he is seeing, why, or where he is staying. All that is known is that he is here for a series of "important private meetings".

He will make one public appearance, at a press conference tomorrow at the Royal United Services Institute in Whitehall, but the Institute does not know the rest of his movements either. At the conference, Tower will make a statement on East-West relations, and we may expect some sparks. Nobody

reflects the new image in Washington better than this tough, God-fearing little Texan who was elected to Lyndon Johnson's seat 20 years ago. Now 55, he holds the curious distinction of being the only non-commissioned reservist in Congress with the rank of chief petty officer.

One thing there will be no mystery about: his views on any projected cuts in the Royal Navy.

How did you do?

I haven't found anybody who knew the answers to more than one of the questions in Friday's news quiz, so readers who got two or more did well.

The first question was: "Who had them rolling in the aisles and hated it?" Answer: Mr Michael Heather, head wagger of Gloucester Cathedral. He had expressed his distaste at the behaviour of young couples who had slept on the cathedral floor during an all-night rock concert.

Question two: "Why did Jack Waters make news—and what was his link with P2?" Jack Waters was, of course, actor Jack Warner, who died last week in the Royal Masonic Hotel, with P2 the Masonic lodge at the centre of the Italian scandal.

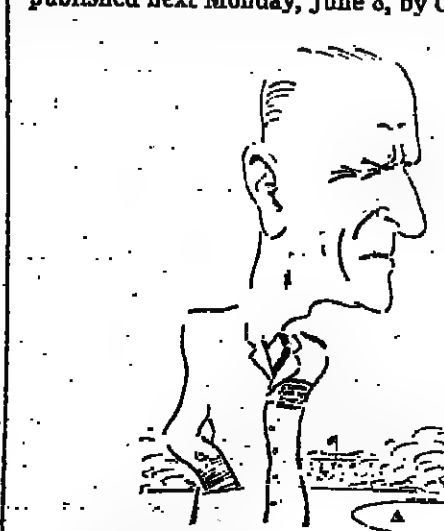
Question three: "Where would supper cost you £2m?" The church in Chely, north Wales, where a painting of *Christ's Supper at Emmaus*, allegedly by Velasquez, was found by artist and restorer Thomas Dempsey-Jones.

Finally, "What medieval weapon was turned on which modern knight?" Crossbow, the weapon of the Bow Group, which attacked Sir Keith Joseph. More teasers next weekend.

Peter Watson

Members of the Wedding [1]

"To comprehend fully the nature of princes one must be an ordinary citizen": taking Machiavelli in brief, Clive James has constructed his newest political squib around a supposed royal marriage in a mythical kingdom. Each day this week we are publishing one of Marc's illustrations with a quotation from *Charles Charming's Challenges on the Pathway to the Throne*, which is to be published next Monday, June 8, by Cape at £4.95.



Likewise a man of few words, Philip spoke. "Thank Christ that's over. Sturdy little bloke. Bit short of chin, perhaps. Still, you can't tell. Right sort of food, might turn out bloody well. Propped up among the pillows, weak with joy. His wife declared: 'We're so glad it's a boy.'"

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هكذا من الأصل



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

A TRAGEDY FOR BANGLADESH

The killing of President Zia-ur Rahman is a shattering blow to peace and good government in Bangladesh, likely to throw the country into despair at the unending military rivalry from which the country has suffered from its birth. Nothing that is known of the rebel leadership in Chinagong promises any popular support for its action. Personal rivalry as much as some imagined national purpose seems to have inspired General Manzur's brutal plot. That in turn is likely to reawaken past vendettas which President Zia might have hoped had lost their edge. For six years he had coaxed the country back to order and decency, giving hope to its ninety million people. Whatever criticisms could be made of his rule were as nothing to such benefits.

Shaikh Mujib, the country's nationalist leader, had established the Awami League which promised to carry the people into a promised land of independence after the bloody birth of Bangladesh in 1971. The coup of 1975, in which all members of Shaikh Mujib's family who could be found were indiscriminately slaughtered, was carried out by a group of young army officers in protest at the corruption in which Shaikh Mujib's following had sunk and at the lawlessness in the country with which the Awami League maintained its power by its own strong-arm force. There was much justice in the charges but little hope for the country in the vindictiveness displayed. The wounds were deep and have never healed. After two further coups — also exclusively military in origin — General Zia took power as a military ruler. His record in office had

earned him respect and had given the country a peace it had not before enjoyed. He promised to restore parliamentary government and, like military rulers in other Asian countries, founded his own party to fight the elections. Winning a majority by methods that were not discreditable, given the character of the country, President Zia resolved to fulfill his promise to institute effective civilian government. He was even able to attract opposition politicians into his service. But however much peace spread through the countryside, or fortune brought good harvests undamaged by the floods that had so often ruined them, political and military rivalries continued to sap his rule. Over his shoulder he was always aware of the power of the gun.

The military part in the birth of Bangladesh, not to mention the Bengali propensity to politics — "take three Bengalis and you have the makings of four political parties" — has politicised the army and set going rivalries that have never gone off the boil. There has been more than one attempt at a coup to overthrow President Zia; in 1977, and again in June last year when he was on a visit to Britain. Hitherto his skills in fending off rivals and diverting politically ambitious officers have enabled him to give the country a fair wind in helping itself, in a world where help for a country so poor in skills and resources as Bangladesh was always the most charitable of aid-givers.

Externally President Zia's death opens up as many doubts as it does internally. India's part as midwife to the breakaway Bengali state meant that Shaikh

Mujib and his Awami League were beholden to India and ready to cooperate with New Delhi. As a new leader after 1975 President Zia not only took Bangladesh into a new found independence from both India and Pakistan but did it prudently and unemotionally, to the point where an acceptable neighbourly relationship with Mrs Gandhi smoothed over the rancour following Shaikh Mujib's assassination. With the recent return from exile in New Delhi of Mrs Hasina Wazid, a daughter of Shaikh Mujib, and her reported arrest over the weekend, Indian concern at the outcome of the current turbulence will naturally grow. So will conflicts of every kind.

With all news sources cut, it is impossible to forecast whether President Zia's government will be able to reestablish effective power throughout the country, or, indeed, what political policies the rebel leaders believe themselves to be fighting for. Disorder and the loss of control could last for some time. Unhappily the answers to all these questions lie in military action or the threat of it. The divided armed forces may become even more splintered. In face of this, what hope is there that such power can be used to "mobilize and motivate" these ninety million peasants, as President Zia sought to do and was in good measure bringing about despite the enormous difficulties? His death is a tragic blow. Nothing but crippling chaos can follow it. In power he had been determined to restore civilian government but army resistance could not be overcome. After a decade Bangladesh may be back at the starting line.

MR HOLMES BREAKS HIS SILENCE

Mr David Holmes has now told the *News of the World* that Mr Jeremy Thorpe had, in fact, incited him to murder Mr Norman Scott, a charge on which Mr Thorpe was acquitted in 1979. The claim must be treated with circumspection. Mr Holmes' story has not been subjected to cross-examination or other close scrutiny which might have exposed its weaknesses or contradictions. It has been emphasized that he has not been paid for his revelations to the newspaper. None the less, his motives — whatever they really are — may be found to throw some doubt on his reliability.

There is no doubt, however, that if Mr Holmes' evidence had been given at the trial — in which he, Mr Thorpe and two others were accused of conspiring to murder Mr Scott — it would have made a great difference. If Mr Holmes had been believed, it would have made Mr Thorpe's conviction on the incitement charge, which he (and he alone) faced, virtually certain. The reason the evidence was not before the court was that Mr Holmes had exercised his right as an accused not to go into the witness box.

Mr Thorpe cannot be tried again for incitement because of the principle of *autrefois acquit* applies even where there is new evidence, not revealed at the trial, implicating

an accused who has previously been acquitted. It would, indeed, be open to the perpetrator of a crime to confess to it publicly without the danger that he could be tried again. In 1958 Donald Hume admitted to a Sunday newspaper that he had murdered Stanley Setty, the crime for which the jury had found him guilty.

Mr Thorpe could, however, be charged with some other, lesser offence which might not come within the principle. It would not be difficult to devise such a charge, but the Attorney General has already said that it is unlikely that any new criminal proceedings will be brought. He is right to take that view. The public interest does not require another trial. More taxpayers' money would be wasted. Mr Holmes' story, if true, is a political, already a ruined man. Of course there is nothing to stop him bringing an action for libel against Mr Holmes and any publications which published his allegations. This would amount in some respects, to a retrial of the criminal proceedings, with the publishers having to prove — on a balance of probabilities — the truth of Mr Holmes' claim.

The manner in which Mr Holmes' story has become known is a further issue. It is unfortunate that evidence which was clearly pertinent, and might perhaps have been decisive, was not before the jury at all. That was because of the rule

of English criminal law allowing accused persons the right to decline to give evidence. It is a rule which follows logically and inevitably from an accusatorial system of criminal justice, but it can on occasion work against justice. It may have done so in this case.

Mr Holmes' intervention will give ammunition to those who call for reform of the accused's right to silence at his trial (which does not raise precisely the same issues as the right to silence under police questioning). At the very least, it can be argued that adverse comment should be able to be made by judge or prosecutor if an accused refuses to give evidence. Against that, it is probable that, even if no comment is made, a jury will draw inferences of the possible inference that might be drawn from silence. It is a natural reaction to assume that someone who says nothing in the face of evidence against him has something to hide.

There can be little doubt that if Mr Holmes had given evidence it would have been very difficult for Mr Thorpe then to have refused to go into the witness box. What difference that would have made to the jury's verdict, whichever way it went — would have been based on something a little more substantial than they had to go on when they found Mr Thorpe and the defendants not guilty.

David Wood

Benn, making his way up the greasy pole

About a year ago one of these columns breasted a flood of right-minded opinion by arguing that it would be a pity if the Labour Party were to break away and form a new centre group. Far better, the article said, to stand and fight for "this great movement of ours", as Hugh Gaiskell did at the turn of the 1950s.

There were agreeable consequences. Roy Jenkins, still President of the Brussels Commission, invited me to lunch at *Le Gourmet Sans Chique* in Strasbourg, from which I came out unconstrained; and Bill Rodgers, the ablest brewer of wood and drawer of water in Gaiskell's campaign for party sanity, confessed that more than the passage of time separated 1980 from 1960. The left, he implied, had decisively won the battle of attrition or intrigue for the control of the Labour Party. It was too late for a second Gaiskell campaign for party salvation to succeed.

The break came after the Wembley Special Conference, which deprived the Parliamentary Labour Party of its choice of leader. Now Denis Healey has to fight in the autumn to keep hold on the deputy leadership, and keep alive the possibility of succeeding Michael Foot as leader, without the help of a dozen of his most needed colleagues.

The chances are that either Mr Benn or Mr Silkin, standard bearers of the left, will win, and the last battle will be lost for Gaiskellism. Half the remaining members of the PLP live in fear of the left's pogrom and its knee-capping threats of non-reselection. These days there are nominal members of the Tribune Group who are scarcely more on the left of politics than half Mrs Thatcher's Cabinet; they simply have to pretend to be to try and

survive. That will be increasingly the trend, and on his record, Mr Healey will have no counter to it. He is a mild man, an unrepentant Gaiskellite.

It is already a reasonable speculation, short of acts of God, that Mr Benn will now eventually become Labour leader. He is lucky in that; for after all Tony Benn is a media man himself and knows he must avoid being ignored. He is the ogre of the time and wants to be.

Mr Benn's genius is that he always understood how to use the system and procedure, as well as public opinion. He dismantled himself of the Stansgate emblems by invoking public opinion until the system gave way and it became legally possible to renounce, as he did, his peerage. He invoked public opinion and forced the constitutional innovation of a national referendum on EEC membership, although Douglas Jay proposed it years earlier, and was ineffectual.

He won the battle for turning the PLP into puppets of party conference by saying he would say, "I did not betray the mass party when in office, but also to ensure that he himself attained the leadership. He purports to be the democrat incarnate, until democracy works against him.

Yet, as one who has enjoyed his vitalising company without being required to agree with him on any issue, I can think of no one in politics who is less sensitive to the contrary opinion than Mr Benn. He has more than a touch of Enoch Powell's self-certainty. He has rarely been a compromiser in any committee or Cabinet. He has a Messianic sense of what is right and what is wrong (though he often changes his mind, as on EEC membership and unilateralism). He is a born longer or autocrat of the working-breakfast table.

In any proper sense of the phrase, he is as upper middle class as Atlee and Gaiskell, and much farther removed from the people than MacDonald, Wilson and Callaghan. It shows. Once, at a delightful fish

paste sandwich lunch in the Millbank Tower, when he was Minister, he said to me, "I am looking across the Thames to the South Bank. 'I must be,' he said — 'the first minister whose office has the same view as my nursery when young.' No doubt he was, as the Millbank Tower stands on the site of the Stansgate home.

He went to Westminster School and, of course, Oxford. He served a good middle-class war with a commission in the RAF. He married money. His entry in *Who's Who* these days does not for some reason clean about his socio-economic blessings, although I comment on this as a candid sense of self-conscious proletarian tactics must be at work.

Two things are worth saying. First, if Tony Benn is eventually elected leader of Labour in opposition, as I believe he will be, my guess is that he will court the media. It is not in the nature of the man, although it may now be in the nature of the ambitious politician, to accept what he knows to be arrant nonsense from any mass vote at a party conference or from the General Council of the TUC. He will defeat the mass in debate. He is among two or three of the best debaters in Westminster politics; he will go his own way, just like every other party leader and prime minister we have ever had. He always has; he always will.

Secondly, I question whether he could ever form a Labour government. He has never had any Labour power base until he became the seductive voice of the extreme left. Until recently, for years, he carefully avoided the Tribune Group, and he has as many enemies as friends within it. His view of decentralised industrial socialism, which he experimented with as a minister, has no visible appeal to ordinary trade unionists.

Sooner or later, whoever votes in the Labour election, the PLP will have to evolve a prime minister who can command a Commons majority to present to the Queen, and Mr Benn could not hope to be the man. In the end, the Healeys, Hattersleys, Shores, and the rest could refuse to serve and it is a pity that Labour's democratic will be no longer there to refuse as well.

Policy markers for defence

From Lord Watkinson, CH
Sir, The subject of defence does not seem to have become and less emotive over the years. One can only wish the Secretary of State success in his attempts to find acceptable solutions to so many incompatible requirements.

In my day certain policy markers seemed to my advisers to be of outstanding importance. I believe that they are still relevant to present considerations.

Provided that the Nato alliance preserves the nuclear balance it is more likely to be subverted on its flanks than as its centre. So a mobile flank guard must be an essential part of the alliance. This force must be seaborne if it is to avoid the political difficulties of overflying and foreign bases.

Weapon systems are not necessarily rendered obsolete merely because they are fully developed. The business of arms salesmanship is thus not always supportive of defence strategy. For example the capacity for instant readiness must always be more important than the most glamorous new weapons system that will remain unproven for many years ahead.

Defence spending is never popular. Yet quite apart from the necessity for national survival it is one of the very best sources of employment and capital investment so long as the expenditure is kept within the UK.

I hope that these considerations will not be neglected in the final defence policy when it emerges.

Yours faithfully,

WATKINSON,
Tyne House,
Shore Road,
Bosham,
Chichester,
Sussex,
May 30.

From Lord Orr-Ewing

Sir, Lord Gladwyn (May 28) claims that Britain's conventional defence would become viable if we abandoned plans to build Trident and added the £5 billion cost to the £75 billion already planned. It would be to spend over the next 15 years on conventional hardware (both figures are in 1980 £s). Could he succinctly explain why the £5 billion switch would make all the difference to our defence?

Yours faithfully,
LORD ORR-EWING,
House of Lords, SW1,
May 29.

Salvation Army

From Mr Kevin Healy
Sir, In reply to the letter from the General of the Salvation Army (May 27) I would like to point out that he has done nothing to satisfy the criticisms levelled at his organization. The Salvation Army members and host users in the ATV film.

The former members of the Salvation Army claimed that it obeyed purely organizational imperatives, such as profitability and image building, rather than a loving concern for the disadvantaged in society.

Hotel users complained of what can only be described as bullying and meanness. The high charges levied for bed and breakfast in the minimally acceptable conditions intended where I have paid for very comfortable holiday accommodation in Yorkshire in the last two years.

The film showed that the advertising campaigns mounted by the Salvation Army portray the social work as the central task carried out by the public and that people have to pay in fact for every pound collected, only 14p is spent on social work. Most people who give money to Salvation Army collections do so in the belief that it will shelter, feed and clothe the people less fortunate than themselves. It was staggering to discover that money collected in the Christmas Season goes into the local organizational needs and to pay for the Christmas musical instruments. None of the Christmas collection goes to the hostels for the needy.

It must seem to the interested observer that a certain amount of legions has been practised on the public and that people have to be right to know how the money they contribute to Salvation Army funds is being spent.

Is the Salvation Army, we must ask ourselves, more interested in accountability in compassion?

Yours faithfully,
KEVIN HEALY,
26 The Quarry,
Alwoodley Park,
Leeds 17,
May 27.

Below the belt

From Mr T. J. Nelson
Sir, Major Sir Arthur Collins' case (May 19) for increased powers of Ministerial control over local planning authorities rests upon his suggestion that, in the Knaresborough case cited, my council had granted planning permission contrary to the provision of the structure plan and in circumstances which denied the Secretary of State an opportunity to rectify the matter by calling in the application.

Leaving aside the detailed inaccuracies in Sir Arthur's letter (eg the application was received five months later than the date he suggests) the salient facts are:

1. That no permission has yet been granted;
2. The permission recommended would conform to structure plan policies and would, if granted, displace the existing permission which, if implemented, would be more prejudicial to the green belt;
3. Although the option is still available to my council to refer the application to the Secretary of State, he has already indicated that this is not an application which he would wish to consider calling in.

The wise physician properly diagnoses the illness before suggesting the cure.

Yours faithfully,
T. J. NELSON,
Chairman, Planning Committee,
Harrogate Borough Council,
Harrogate,
North Yorkshire,
May 27.

Reagan policy in southern Africa

From Professor Dorothy Hodgkin, OBE, FRS and others

Sir, An explosive escalation of the conflict in southern Africa is foreshadowed by the proposal of the Reagan Administration to repeal the Clark amendment, which bans US military aid, without congressional approval to groups opposed to the government of Angola. We believe that the implications of the proposal have received far too little attention.

The amendment to the US Arms Export Act introduced by Senator Dick Clark was passed in January 1976 by a Congress alarmed by covert Central Intelligence Agency activity under way in Angola aimed at overthrowing the government formed after independence in November, 1975. The stand taken by Congress at the time reflected a widespread feeling that the US should not support a government which had been formed by the defeat of its armed intervention in Vietnam and in no mood for any more such adventures.

It also reflected the fear of allying the United States with apartheid South Africa. The invading forces still occupied large parts of Angola at that time, including major towns. For many there was the hope that the US, having taken the side of the South African-backed forces, would now recognise the right to independence of the state born of that bitter national liberation struggle.

The repeal of the Clark amendment would leave the US Administration free to give open military support to South Africa-backed forces in violation of the principles of the United Nations Charter and international law. It would be a declaration of war by one UN member on another, by the most powerful nation on earth on a newly-independent African country whose people are engaged in the difficult process of national reconstruction, rebuilding a country ravaged by twenty years of war. It would be support for the devastating war the South Africans continued to wage against Angola, a war that has already cost an estimated seven billion dollars in material damage, to say nothing of the loss of life.

The US Administration is now contemplating would be inadmissible interference in the internal affairs of Angola, as is the suggestion that, at the behest of the US government, the Angolan people should be tested by their government elements of Unida, based in Namibia and working as

agents of the apartheid regime, in short traitors to the Angolan people.

Although the Reagan Administration has taken this aggressive stance against Angola, the Government of that country has concluded contracts with US companies operating in Angola and has been described by the president of Gulf Oil Company, for example, as a "knowledgeable and understanding negotiator," as well as a reliable partner. Yet it is precisely in defence of American interests that an interventionist policy is being advocated.

Rather than seek to destabilize independent Angola, the West should help to promote peace in the region by exerting effective pressure on South Africa to make it stop its aggression against a sovereign country and accept the UN plan for the independence of Namibia. This has been forcefully stated by such African leaders as Prime Minister Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe and Presidents Chadi Bendjedid of Algeria and Shehu Shagari of Nigeria, who have all condemned the proposed repeal of the Clark amendment.

The recent vote of the foreign affairs committee of the US House of Representatives to retain the amendment is a welcome development indicating that African opinion is being heeded by some people in the US power structure.

Mindful of their business interests, western countries will have to face a choice between supporting Africa and an apartheid regime condemned by the whole world. As an important ally of the United States and also one of its partners in the western "coalition" group involved in seeking a solution to the problem of Namibia, we call upon the British Government to try to prevail upon the Reagan Administration to refrain from embarking upon an exceedingly dangerous interventionist policy, which can only lead to more bloodshed and suffering in Southern Africa.

Yours faithfully,
DOROTHY HODGKIN,
THOMAS HODGKIN,
CHRIS ALLEN,
ROBIN COHEN,
CHRISTOPHER FYFE,
TERENCE RANGER,
JOHN REX,
A. F. ROBERTSON,
G. A. WILLIAMS,
34 Percy Street, W1,
May 29.

Church schools

From the Reverend Richard Moberly

Sir, Your Educational Correspondent, in her article of May 13, reported criticisms said to have been made by the Leader of the GLC regarding the admissions policy of church schools. In refuting the particular accusations I hope that Prebendary Green (May 19) will not overlook the deep concern felt by many parents, teachers and governors of county schools about the effect of that policy as it is practised at least within the Inner London area.

In common with county schools, church schools (with a few exceptions) support the principles of comprehensive education. This means that with regard to their intake they do stick strictly to a random selection of the three houses into which the children are divided by the authority — the ration being indicated in advance by the local divisional office of the LEA. Where the children of county schools are selected on the basis of their parents' occupation, it is that their children within each band they should admit to make up their quota.

This is the point which in my experience causes the ill feeling. The very fact of selectivity means that a school will be oversubscribed, but not always for very good reasons. While some church schools are excellent and deserve their reputation, others are less so, but parents do want their children to go to them in the belief that their children will thereby gain a head start over the mass who are not so selected.

Doctors' evidence

From Dr Gerald Silverman

Sir, In a letter to *The Times* some months ago I argued that evidence of unfitness to plead and similar claims should be tested before juries rather than accepted solely on the basis of psychiatrists' reports. At that time I did not expect such an exemplification as at the Sutcliffe trial.

Though welcome, the judges' decision has eventually led to little clarification regarding the task of the jury. This should have been twofold: firstly they had to determine the facts and expert status of the psychiatric witnesses; and secondly to assess what implications their clinical diagnosis had for the level of responsibility of the accused.

Given that the first part was satisfactory, the jury should have been helped to understand (a) the connexion between psychiatric symptoms and the notion of a mental illness (eg schizophrenia) and (b) how, and to what extent, such an illness might reduce responsibility in respect of limits recognized by the law. Sadly neither of these two vital steps in the argument was properly illuminated in this case.

Surely if a clinical mistake is to be made then it is right to assume that an expert psychiatrist will be less prone to diagnostic error than 12

laymen. More importantly is the status of evidence by psychiatrists as to what the accused has said to them. I myself have recently been challenged in court as to the admissibility of such material on the basis that it is hearsay.

My answer, which has been accepted, is that it is only hearsay if it is used as a factual record but not if given to illustrate my processes of examination and diagnostic formulation. In the Sutcliffe case the jury seems to have usurped the psychiatrist's role of diagnosis (ie malingerer versus mental illness) on the basis of just such reported statements which become, in the context, hearsay. As such, I would submit, Sir, they are no longer properly admissible.

Sadly, the jury seems to have been unable to perform what should have been its proper duty. It has gone on to its remit. Clearly this very unsatisfactory area where psychiatry and the law meet is much overdue for a thorough review: practitioners of both have no cause to be complacent after this unusual trial.

Yours sincerely,
GERALD SILVERMAN,
Consultant Psychiatrist,
Selling Hospital,
Uxbridge Road,
Southall,
Middlesex,
May 27.

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Consultant Psychiatrist,
Selling Hospital,
Uxbridge Road,
Southall,
Middlesex,
May 27.

Fixing air fares

From the Chairman of the Air Transport Users Committee

Sir, I am astonished by the letter (May 21) from the Chairman of the Scottish Consumer Council, Mrs Walker, supporting your lead on member states in Brussels who called on the initiative of my committee, for the purposes of setting up committees representing air transport users in other EEC countries. Hopefully, one day we may thereby be able to persuade EEC governments and state-owned airlines to rationalize European air fares.

Yours faithfully,
N. ASHTON HILL,
Air Transport Users Committee,
129 Kingsway WC2,
May 21.

Role in politics of Bow Group

From the Chairman of the Bow Group

Sir, I refer to your recent banner headlines (May 28) describing the editorial by Richard Barber in the current issue of the magazine *Crossbow* in which you claim that the Bow Group has demanded the resignation of Sir Keith Joseph.

The Bow Group has never had a collective view since its foundation in 1951. It does not purport to have one view, and the editor of *Crossbow* does not speak on behalf of any other member of the group. Each copy of *Crossbow*, including the one you refer to in your coverage, quite precisely states that all opinions expressed therein are individual opinions and not to be construed as a collective view from the group. I therefore fail to see how you can justify your banner headlines.

Far from attacking in a personalised way, individual members of the Government, Mr Barber devoted much of his article to a call for strengthening Mrs Thatcher's hand against Cabinet leaks in preparation for a Conservative victory at the next election; and went on to say that Sir Keith Joseph is in fact one of Mrs Thatcher's strongest supporters.

I found it most disappointing that you should, in so august a journal, seek to over-emphasise Mr Barber's objections, to the policies of providing public funds to loss-making nationalised industries and his call for greater collective responsibility in Cabinet decisions — simply as a highly personalised attack on Sir Keith Joseph by the entire Bow Group.

Sir Keith has had considerable success in denationalising British Aerospaces and his achievements with British Telecom are warmly welcomed. He has remained a good friend of the group for a considerable period of time and has recently taken the trouble to explain the difficulties he is encountering in implementing the radical reforms he so much favours.

We all wish him well in his endeavours. I remain, yours faithfully,
NIRANJAN DEVA-ADITYA,
Chairman,
The Bow Group,
240 High Holborn, WC1,
May 30.

Thinking Europeans

From Mr Eric Ford, MEP for Birmingham North (Conservative)

Sir, A further dimension of the role and relevance of members of the European Parliament, referred to by David Wood (May 25), is suggested by the membership of the new French Cabinet, appointed by President Mitterrand. It includes no fewer than four French (ex-) members of the European Parliament (and one ex-commissioner, Cheysson).

Nothing could better illustrate the differences in approach by the United Kingdom and the other member States of the Community to the relationship between Community and national politics and institutions.

We should consider whether this may have a bearing on our poor performance in the last election in the European "corridors of power". Yours faithfully,
ERIC FORD,
40a Goldsille Road,
Sutton Coldfield,
West Midlands,
May 25.

Virtues of the pre-fab

From Mr Michael Thomas

Sir, I am delighted that Alan Hamilton (London diary, May 24) has given publicity to public opinion on the merits of the pre-fab. This museum has recently dismantled an example, from Birmingham, of the Arcon Mark V type of pre-fab of which 41,000 were made at the end of the war. Following restoration of the parts it will be re-erected and furnished as an exhibit not only of the innovative techniques inherent in the building design, but also of the social message it so successfully met during the immediate postwar period.

Alan Hamilton mentions that each pre-fab was put up for £1,000 in the 1940s. Our operation, including repairs will, of course, cost a bit more. The Science Museum in London has promised financial help towards the cost of saving for posterity an example of such a highly regarded building type now so swiftly and swept away.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL THOMAS,
Director,
Avoncroft Museum of Buildings,
Stoke Heath,
Worcestershire,
May 22.

Study of marriage

From Mrs Jean Fadil

Sir, Dr Michael Argyle tells us in his letter of May 19 of the discovery in his Department of Experimental Psychology at Oxford University that "in disturbed marriages the parties send each other more negative verbal and non-verbal signals, and these are more often reciprocated."

Many of our readers must have shared my exhilaration at this fresh evidence that the city of dreaming spires is still pushing back the frontiers of human knowledge with such bold iconoclasm.

Yours faithfully,
JAN FADIL,
26 Kingsley Place, N6,
May 19.

Verge of recovery

From Mrs. Jan Green

Sir, The Government cuts have at least brought us one bonus: now that the country councils can no longer afford what a joy it is to see the lanes in bloom and smell the delicious summer scent of Cow Parsley.

Yours etc,
JAN GREEN,
Woodbury Hill Farm,
Great Witley,
Nr. Worcester,
May 27.

Book packagers' expanding library, page 19

Business News

THE TIMES June 1 1981

Business goes back to basics, page 19

Stock markets

FT Ind 542.5
FT Gilt 67.67

Sterling

£2.0700
Index 98.9

Dollar

Index 107.1
DM 2.3342

Gold

\$479.50 up 51

Money

3-mth sterling 12.4-12.5
3-mth Euro \$ 18.4-17.8
6-mth Euro \$ 17.1-17

Friday's close

IN BRIEF

Soviet plan based on coal fuel

The Soviet Union is sitting on nearly half of the world's known coal reserves and its next five-year plan aims to establish a coal-based economy to produce liquid fuel from coal.

Soviet experts believe that by the end of the century much of the energy consumed by industry and cars will be derived from coal.

The five-year plan from 1981 to 1985 envisages an increase in coal production of between 7 and 12 per cent while oil output is expected to rise only by between 3 and 7 per cent.

Much of the Soviet Union's coal reserves lie in eastern Siberia where open-cast mines permit low cost extraction. Coal processing units are to be installed over the next few years in the region of Kansk-Achinsk in Eastern Siberia where 1,000 million tons of coal a year could be mined over the next 100 years, according to Soviet estimates.

In the same region, at Krasnoyarsk, a plant for producing fuel from coal is due to go into operation at the end of the year.

200 jobs at risk

Mr Eric Morley, Miss World promoter and former Mecca chief, said he would have to close his Chiswick restaurant centre this month, with the loss of 200 jobs, if it fails to get back its late night drinks licence. Conditional notices were issued at the weekend to 100 full time staff and 100 part-timers at Morley's Nite Spot in Ibrox, Glasgow.

Loan for Zimbabwe

Mr John Nkomo, Zimbabwe's Deputy Minister of Industry and Energy Development, is visiting Paris to sign a \$55m (£26.5m) loan agreement for a power station to be built at Wankie.

Indian 'coolers'

Indian scientists have found a cheap substitute for air-conditioning - wet sacks costing about 30p a square yard. Spread on the roof of a house they can reduce the temperature inside by as much as 18 degrees Fahrenheit.

Oil bids total \$4,900m

Oil and gas companies have submitted bids totalling nearly \$4,900m (£2,400m) for the drilling rights to 51 tracers in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of California. The 81 highest bids totalled \$2,270m. No bids were received on 30 other tracers.

Amex merger go-ahead

American Express (Amex) and Shearson Loeb Rhoades said their merger reorganisation had been declared effective by the securities and exchange commission.

Broker loses status

The Bank of England announced that the status of a recognised broker from Sarabex after the firm's cessation of foreign exchange and currency deposit broking activities in London.

Colombia loan

Colombia has signed a 10-year \$200m (£96m) loan agreement with a syndicate of international banks, including Barclays Bank and National Westminster.

Oil rig collapse

A Gulf Oil rig, operated jointly by United States and Angolan interests, collapsed off Angola's northern Cabinda province. No one was hurt.

\$4.5m for India

India has been granted some \$4.5m (£2.17m) aid by the European Economic Community towards flood shelters along the coast of Kerala.

Review sees permanent damage to economy

By Frances Williams, Economics Staff

There is no sign of any recovery from recession coming before the end of 1982, despite recent claims by ministers that an economic upswing may now be under way, the Independent National Institute for Economic and Social Research says in its May Review published yesterday.

Government policies are failing to achieve their twin objectives of reducing inflation permanently and making industry leaner and fitter. On the contrary, by prolonging the recession they are inflicting long-term damage on the economy, the institute claims. And, in line with its traditional Keynesian approach, it calls for reflation to raise output and check the rise in unemployment.

It expects an L-shaped recession with output broadly flat over the next 18 months, close to the levels reached in the second half of 1980. Gross domestic product this year is expected to fall 1.2 per cent below the 1980 average, slipping further in 1982 by 0.1 per cent on the year.

With output bumping along the bottom, unemployment is predicted to go on rising, though more slowly than last year, by a further 200,000 this year and 400,000 next year to bring the number of adults unemployed in Great Britain (excluding school leavers and seasonally adjusted) to 3 million by the end of 1982.

The institute forecasts that the rise in the tax burden of incomes along with lower pay settlements and higher unemployment will cut living standards, as measured by after-tax incomes adjusted for inflation, by nearly 3 per cent during this year, recovering only slightly in 1982. At the end of 1982 living standards will be little higher than in 1979.

Government claims that in the medium term its policies will lead to lower inflation and a "leaner, fitter" industry are firmly rejected.

The report says that largely as a result of the Budget rise in indirect taxes, as well as the end to the rise in the sterling exchange rate, it does not now expect the rate of consumer price inflation to reach single figures this year. It predicts that inflation will be running at an annual rate of 10.1 per cent by the end of 1981, compared with 12 per cent to April, falling to 8.1 per cent by the end of next year.

The trend to greater pay moderation is likely to be reversed once unemployment stops rising, so is increased willingness by workers to accept changes in working practices because of their need for their jobs. Extra investment is needed, for big improvements in productivity. Yet manufacturing investment fell last year and is expected to fall again this year, by between 15 and 18 per cent.

The prolongation of the recession jeopardizes the productive potential of the future, the institute says.

It claims that in the short term reflation would produce little by way of extra inflation if demand was increased by abolishing the employers' national insurance surcharge. It was needed simply to make a very bad prospect slightly less bad. But reflation, no more than the Government's chosen remedy of indexing, cannot solve Britain's problems of chronic inflation and poor industrial competitiveness. For these structural reforms are essential.

The forecasts are broadly echoed by those of Phillips and Drew, the city stockbrokers, published today. They predict stagnant output this year, some recovery in 1982, unemployment rising 3 million by the end of 1981 (including school leavers, unadjusted for seasonal variations), and inflation briefly touching single figures in mid-1982 before rising again.

Phillips and Drew add there will be minimal scope for tax cuts before the next election. The Government fails to cut planned public spending further, unless it relaxes its targets for public sector borrowing.

Recovery a long way off

By Peter Bill, Industrial Editor

Manufacturers are expected to continue running down their stocks of finished goods during the next few months, and while there are strong indications that the recession is continuing, to flatten, a significant recovery appears to be a long way off.

Despite this bleak picture for industry, the CBI says that inflation will be down to 10 per cent before the end of the year and could be in single figures next year.

These are among the main conclusions of the latest monthly survey drawn up by the Confederation of British Industry's economic situation committee under the chairmanship of Mr J. A. S. Clemons. Order books remain weak, although orders are stronger for consumer goods manufacturers than for companies that manufacture capital goods. There is little evidence of any marked change in the strength of export orders.

The CBI reports that 21 per cent of companies surveyed expect their output to fall in the next four months and 20 per cent anticipate a rising unemployment rate.

There are indications of a stabilization in orders, partly arising from an apparent easing in the rate of de-stocking.

In the first three months of this year, companies continued to reduce their stocks, particularly of finished goods, and that pattern is likely to continue. Demand and output will, says the CBI, continue to be depressed although if Government policies are changed, some slight recovery may take place next year.

But the recovery will not affect unemployment which is continuing to rise. The rate of increase has slowed and is expected to slow further next year but, by the end of 1982, unemployment on a seasonally adjusted basis and excluding school leavers, is likely to be about 3 million.

Information flowing into the organization's regional offices has confirmed that the fall in activity levels is stabilizing. But the CBI stated: "There is no evidence of any substantial recovery in the immediate future."

This week's meeting of the National Economic Development Council could have an important effect on the economy. The Government will face pressure from the CBI, the TUC and state industry chairmen to remove some of the Treasury shackles on public sector investment.

The Nationalized Industries Chairman's Group is urging the Government to adopt a more flexible policy towards major capital projects and will emphasize that relatively modest changes, which will not require any fundamental shift in policy, could prove highly beneficial to both the state sector and the private sector.

The CBI's economists, meanwhile, believe that company finances are likely to worsen, destroying jobs down.

Computer fraud is booming

By Bill Johnston

Computer fraud has shown such a marked increase over the past two years that it is now costing its victims an average of between £30,000 and £40,000 in each instance.

A study by Dr Kenneth Wong, of BIS Applied Systems, of about 50 cases over the past decade was originally undertaken to form the basis for a book, but the findings were so alarming that BIS has made the information available to its clients.

The study shows that the financial institutions are becoming increasingly reluctant to make such frauds public and, although the price is usually dismissed from his job, charges are rarely preferred and on some occasions the thief has been provided with a reference to enable him to get another job.

Dr Wong therefore recommends that legislation is brought in to ensure that all instances of this type of fraud are reported to the authorities. He also feels that ignorance at corporate level was an important factor in the increase in computer crime. "Corporate management has no idea of computer systems. They have no understanding of the technicalities," he said.

Dr Wong, who was part of the team which conducted research into computer privacy for the Department of Trade and Industry in 1970, believes that people have become so confident of the accuracy of the computer that its output is never properly checked.

The computer lends itself to fraud because of the general lack of human intervention once programmes have been written. In the 50 cases studied by Dr Wong, many of the frauds were discovered only by accident.

Tunnel advises rejection of new Ward offer

By Michael Prest

Tunnel Holdings, the cement and chemical company trying to fight off a £100m offer from Thos W. Ward, the Sheffield conglomerate, told shareholders in a letter sent over the weekend that its pre-tax profits for the year ending in March 1981 were more than £15.2m, an increase of about £5m.

In the letter, which rejects the Ward bid for the second time, Tunnel says that its final dividend for 1980-81 will be 12p net, making 15.5p net for the year compared with a total dividend of 10p in 1979-80. The new dividend will be covered about 2.7 times.

Tunnel expects profits in the present financial year to be more than last year. Mr Derek Birkin, chairman, says in the rejection document: "It is inconceivable that the unwelcome combination of the two managements could provide the teamwork necessary to make any business successful."

Ward, who has interests in cement, scrap metal, and motor distribution, made its first bid for Tunnel, worth £95m, last March. The bid was rejected.

May after five acceptances had been received. The present terms, about 15 per cent better than the first offer, Tunnel shareholders the alternatives of accepting cash only at 43p a share, or paper and cash at about 45.3p a share. Ward has now built up its stake to around 42 per cent.

Tunnel says that the paper offer is unattractive because the Ward share price is partly supported by its bid in Tunnel. Moreover, Mr Birkin argues that the cash offer puts a multiple of only 10.3 times on Tunnel shares, thereby offering no premium.

S. G. Warburg, the merchant bankers advising Ward, say that Tunnel's comparison between the cash offer and the building sector average of 8.1 is misleading because it is based on a full tax charge. On Warburg's calculations, the 43p cash offer puts Tunnel on a fully taxed multiple of 14.3.

Mr Birkin says that the new executive vice-president of the International Finance Corporation, is determined to secure greater private business involvement in overseas development. He wants to see more commercial banks and manufacturing companies from the West investing in poorer nations and says that the first step is to establish better access to those with money.

Herr Wurtke, who for the past five years was a top executive of the Dresdner Bank, has all the banking contacts necessary for bringing the corporation into the financial mainstream.

The International Finance Corporation, the affiliate of the World Bank most concerned with private investment in developing countries, is being run by a man who has no illusions about the present unwillingness of industrial nations to raise their official aid levels sharply. He sees private companies playing a proportionately bigger role in achieving growth in developing countries.

His approach is all business, with no evidence of any willingness to lapse into the quiet, untroubled and lethargic ways of many international civil servants. He shudders at the suggestion that he has become an international bureaucrat.

In recent years he has been a director of Thyssen, Rolls-Royce Motors and many other companies and for 15 years before

Italian bank chief calls for inflation fight

From John Earle, Rome, May 31

Signor Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, Governor of the Bank of Italy, advanced three proposals at the weekend for restoring order to the country's finances, ravaged by the most serious inflation among industrialized nations.

The central bank should be autonomous of the government, in creating money, and should no longer be compelled to finance government spending. Government should balance new spending decisions with revenue. Instead of indexing wage bonuses to keep pace with inflation, there should be a return to free collective bargaining between capital and labour.

Signor Ciampi was addressing the Bank of Italy's annual meeting. This year more than ever the bank has come to be looked on as a point of stability in a system whose credibility has been eroded by repeated government crises and political scandals.

Italy has had inflation of at least 10 per cent each year for nine years, and around 20 per cent for the past two. This is no longer tolerable, the governor said, and "is drawing us apart from the countries with whom we are united by history and by culture."

"Inflation distorts the essence of money, emptying it of its function as a store of value, and relegating it to the mere role of means of payment," he said.

After disclosing that the Treasury's requirements were running at a monthly level of 4,000,000 lire (£1,675m) against a target for the year of 37,500,000 lire, Signor Ciampi said monetary stability would require removing the power of creating money from the centres that decide on expenditure. He said the central bank had to be freed from a situation in which government liquidity not consistent with growth objectives for the money supply.

The institute also said that for rates to begin falling, there would have to be either a fundamental improvement in Germany's high borrowing requirement and a massive balance of payments deficit or a marked directional change in American interest rates.

IFO also cautioned against expectations that a fall in rates once it sets in, will be as rapid as in past switches from tight to easy money policy in Germany.

Nevertheless, in its study the institute praised the West German Federal Bank for sticking to its high interest rate policy despite all the problems that this was causing for the German economy.

The bank's policy, it said, was the outcome of weighing the long term inflationary consequences of letting the Deutsche mark fall too far on foreign exchange markets against the more short term disadvantage of letting economic recovery through high rates. More to blame for Germany's economic difficulties were wage increases that exceeded any rise in productivity and a lack of cost consciousness in the public sector.

IFO's latest monthly survey of West German Business Opinion suggests that the predominant mood in manufacturing industry, the construction sector and large parts of the wholesale trade is one of gloom.

Industry in particular complained about insufficient demand leading to a fall in orders in hand.

Although retail sales picked up in April after a depressed first quarter of this year, Germany's shop managers are taking a sceptical view of longer term business prospects, and according to IFO retail turnover can be expected to fall by about 1 per cent in real terms over the whole of this year.

The director-general proposes a new spirit of co-operation between the area associations and the centre. He wants a more effective use of executive decision-making within the whole federation, rather than upon a long chain of committees often approaching internal problems from different and sometimes competitive points of view.

He adds: "It is also time to review the wider context of the whole of our industry. It will be much better served if we courageously review our internal structure without delay."

Membership of the EEF fell from a record 6,716 in 1979 to 6,443 last year. Half the establishments leaving did so because they were closing, but 321 new companies joined during the year.

"Perhaps more significantly, over this period numbers employed by federated firms fell from 1.73 million to 1.55 million," Mr Frodsham said.

"Considering all the present economic difficulties of the industry and the controversies aroused by the 1979 agreement, the membership situation is satisfactory. It does not give grounds for complacency."

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No rush for all-Britain Co-op

From Derek Harris, Commercial Editor, Edinburgh

Immediate remedies must be found to rescue the Co-operative Retail Societies' trading problems rather than pursue plans such as a single Co-op Great Britain covering the whole movement.

This is made clear in the annual report of the Co-operative Union to be presented to the Co-operative Congress which opens here today.

Talks on the feasibility of Co-op Great Britain have been going on for two years. It is the expert structural reorganisation plan considered by the movement as a means of coping with the fragmentation of the retail societies which still number around 180 despite a continuing wave of mergers and other forms of rescue.

The movement's potential as a bulk buyer has not been fully used, though some progress has been made, notably through the growing regional warehouse system operated by the Co-operative Wholesale Society which provides goods and services to retail societies.

The plans of a Co-op Great Britain would be the CWS and CRS, the largest single retailer in the movement, which historically has been an ambulance service for societies in trouble. CRS will have a turnover of more than £800m this year; the CWS sales are now running at £1,800m a year.

The CWS attitude to both the Co-op Great Britain plan and other structural solutions such as the creation of a limited number of large regional societies is that change will come slowly through evolution rather than revolution. Mr Denis Landau, CWS chief executive, is making most on advances in trading coordination through regional warehouses and other arrangements.

Mr Howard Perrow, Congress vice-president and chief executive of the Greater Lancaster Society, said last night that more people in the movement were now appreciating the need for a single national entity. It was Perrow who launched the Co-op Great Britain plan. A strong plea to the Government is likely to be made by the congress over plans for locally orientated enterprise zones.

The hard-pressed movement is unlikely to give any financial help to the Co-operative Development Agency (CDA) which has been asked to cash aid from the Government.

Lord Oram, CDA chairman since it was set up in September, 1978, with £90,000 Government assistance for three years, said that the 19 staff of the agency had been given redundancy notices as a protective measure because Government aid runs out at the end of August.

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, is still considering whether to go ahead with further cash aid of £600,000.

A decision is expected soon. Sir Keith has been worried at the CDA's slow progress in moving towards self-sufficiency. Compared with the £300,000 annual running costs of the agency, the CDA at present is generating earnings of less than £30,000.

The main reason for the shortfall is that local societies, by the squeeze on public sector spending, have not been taking up the CDA's offer of surveys on possibilities for local co-operatives.

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Benefit in the Potteries

By Rupert Morris



Golding: call for special area status.

The Potteries, traditionally one of the most prosperous industrial areas in Britain, has been hit so hard by rising unemployment that staff in the unemployment benefit office at Newcastle-under-Lyme have had to move into the Customs and Excise offices to find room to work.

According to the latest Department of Employment figures, unemployment in North Staffordshire has more than doubled in a year from 11,964 to 24,384, or from 5.1 to 10.5 per cent of the workforce.

In addition, notice has been given of between 1,700 and 2,000 redundancies to take effect by August. This startling slump in employment, one of the highest increases in the country, has put an almost intolerable strain on the unemployment offices.

At a time when staff cuts are being sought, the Department of Employment has had no option but to employ casuals, and to require existing staff to work substantially more overtime.

"If it weren't for the royal wedding, things would be a lot worse," said a local spokesman for the Civil and Public Servants' Association.

Mr John Golding, Labour MP for Newcastle-under-Lyme, is particularly worried by the increase in numbers of young people out of work - up from 708 last year to 1,600 this year. He will press the Government

to give the Potteries intermediate area status so that it can qualify for some financial aid. It is an area where unemployment has never been a problem before, and is currently receiving no Government grants, Mr Golding said.

The Special Temporary Employment Programme was recently withdrawn from North Staffordshire and Mr Golding, who is not hopeful of winning any specific Government aid, said the only real way to help would be to lower interest rates or give assistance on fuel prices.

Without such help, he said, industries such as pottery and ceramics, which were largely dependent on exports, could only decline.

The latest report of the North Staffs District Manpower Committee revealed a reduced activity rate, widespread short-time working, continuing redundancies in steel-making, depression in textiles and construction, and a shortage of apprenticeships for the increasing number of applicants for training jobs. The Coal Board has received a record 2,250 job applications this year.

Meanwhile, the number of vacancies notified to the Department of Employment in North Staffs last month was 400, down from 734 at the same time last year.

German interest rate hopes dampened

From Peter Norman, Bonn, May 31

One of West Germany's leading economic research institutes today poured cold water on hopes that Germany can lead a downward movement in international interest rates.

The IFO Economic Research Institute said in its latest monthly report that German capital market rates have yet to reach their peak despite having risen to record levels of around 11 per cent.

The institute also said that for rates to begin falling, there would have to be either a fundamental improvement in Germany's high borrowing requirement and a massive balance of payments deficit or a marked directional change in American interest rates.

IFO also cautioned against expectations that a fall in rates once it sets in, will be as rapid as in past switches from tight to easy money policy in Germany.

Nevertheless, in its study the institute praised the West German Federal Bank for sticking to its high interest rate policy despite all the problems that this was causing for the German economy.

The bank's policy, it said, was the outcome of weighing the long term inflationary consequences of letting the Deutsche mark fall too far on foreign exchange markets against the more short term disadvantage of letting economic recovery through high rates. More to blame for Germany's economic difficulties were wage increases that exceeded any rise in productivity and a lack of cost consciousness in the public sector.

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New IFC chief brings businesslike approach to development finance Banking on the Third World

From Frank Vogl, Washington, May 31

joining the Dresdner Bank he held senior posts with Warburgs.

Herr Wurtke does not view the corporation at all as a public sector entity. "We are all simple, down-to-earth bankers here," he said, adding that the corporation had a highly trained, "business hungry" staff.

He said that he gave up his business career because of the challenge of strengthening private sector growth in poorer nations. He believes that there are excellent opportunities in Africa today for foreign investors, just as there were excellent opportunities years ago in Taiwan, Hongkong and South Korea. Increasing private investment in Africa in particular is a top priority.

He will be working to build stronger relationships with commercial institutions and banks and to bring them into co-financing deals with the corporation. He wants to make the banks familiar with opportunities in developing countries and provide them with the technical knowledge and the management expertise that will give them confidence in the financial soundness of their investments. This year the corporation will be involved in \$300m (£145m) of co-financing deals.

International civil servants are forever boasting of how their organizations are setting new record lending and spending

levels. Herr Wurtke said that he could not care less what the balance sheet volume of the corporation was. The trick as an investment banker was to use as little of the bank's own cash and make as big a profit as possible.

The biggest impact could be secured by bringing more companies of all types into the development process. The corporation's task was to find investment opportunities, to use its skilled staff to identify projects that supported development process and that were financially sound.

There was never a difficulty using money when a project was sound, he said, but admitted that some sectors were concerned about the political and commercial risks involved in developing countries. He believed, however, that the risks were being reduced and that the corporation could help in Africa.

Accountants still searching for reform

Since 1974 accountants have debated five different schemes for dealing with inflation. They have finally adopted the last one, as Statement of Standard Accounting Practice 16.

The hope is that SSAP 16 will be popular with business and will point the way to better tax rules. But already some powerful companies show signs of disaffection and the Inland Revenue has declined to accept its procedures. So what is wrong?

The chief area of dispute is income measurement. Suppose, while general prices are fairly stable, I invest £1,000 in assets (kilos of goods, or shares in ICI, or what you will). Later their market price goes up, and I sell them for £1,300. There are two ways in which I can measure my profit.

First, I can say that £1,300-£1,000=£300, so the profit is £300. Secondly, I can say that the given number of kilos, shares, etc would cost £1,300 to replace at the time of the sale, so my gain is £1,300-£1,300=zero. The new standard opts for the latter figure.

Whereas the first method takes increase in value as its test, the second looks for increase in physical quantity. By charging inputs at replacement cost, it ignores appreciation. It is usually called current cost accounting (CCA).

There are several reasons why CCA appears more plausible in practice than in our example. For one thing, the facts are seldom so easy to see. A firm usually performs several functions: it not only holds assets (inputs) but improves them; thus total gain has both "holding" and "operating" ingredients.

For instance, if a manufacturer pays £1,000 for raw materials he converts them into finished goods. The sale revenue may be high enough to yield an operating profit even if he costs his raw materials at a replacement price of £1,300. His income statement must deal with many figures and neglect of the £300 holding gain will not be obvious.

More important, many firms suffer badly if they cannot keep the physical quantity of inputs (eg, stocks) at some

desirable level. When input prices rise, replacement at this level may strain cash resources. Managers therefore warm to a concept that cuts reported profit and thus tends to lessen demands for payment of tax and dividends. CCA cuts profit by omitting holding gain.

Now let us bring inflation into our arithmetic. If, after I invest my £1,000, general prices rise by 20 per cent, how should I measure profit?

A major aim of income measurement is to help with consumption decisions: how much of the £1,300 revenue can I spend and still expect to be as well off in future periods? Common sense says that, if I retain 1,200 depreciated pounds, my command over goods in general is maintained. So, by this important test, my spendable income now is £1,300-£1,200=£100. However, CCA still puts the figure at zero, its physical test cannot recognize the general index.

Rival claims

The method that uses the general index (and thus seeks to maintain real capital) has come to be known by the initials CPP ("constant purchasing power"). Most of the controversy over inflation accounting centres on the rival claims of CPP and CCA—of real versus physical capital.

The Accounting Standards Committee began by backing the general index and CPP. Then, in 1974, the Government appointed the Sandilands committee to look afresh at the matter and Sandilands brushed CPP aside and espoused current cost accounting. Government pressure then forced the standards committee to change its views and invent CCA systems. It is indeed ironic that government (the Inland Revenue) now should reject CCA. Put not your trust in princes.

The main merit of SSAP 16 is that it revises ordinary practice with a new simple-looking adjustments. In this, it belatedly adopts the mechanics but unhappily not the concepts—of Brazil's successful system.

It uses four adjustments. The first two aim to reduce ordinary (inflated) profit to CCA level. The others aim to allow for inflation's ill effects on money owned, and good effects on money owed.

The four adjustments are: 1. Cost of goods (ie stocks consumed) to raise the historical charge to replacement level.

2. Depreciation to do the same for the year's depreciation charges.

3. Monetary working capital to allow for value loss on cash and debtors, less the corresponding gain on creditors.

4. Gearing to allow for the gain on long-term liabilities.

How well will these adjustments work? Consider first (1) and (2) for squeezing out holding gain. Their figures are found from market prices, or from specific indices for the particular stocks, machines and so on. In some circumstances the calculations will be easy. Sometimes too, the answers will not disagree much from those of CPP.

Supporters of current cost accounting see other virtues in these two adjustments. As was conceded above, they ensure that the company has the cash needed for replacement. However, directors seldom have trouble in persuading shareholders to plough back cash when this is in their long-term interest; and the tax concessions for replacement of stocks and fixed assets are already remarkably generous.

Again, CCA supporters stress that a firm should use current values when costing inputs in decision budgets. Indeed it should. But were it also to use these current costs in its income statements it can still end with CPP profit. It can do so by crediting the reholding gain on inputs—debatable information in any case.

And discussion of (1) and (2) always assumes that input costs go upwards. Even during inflation, some prices fall. Here CCA acts oddly. Suppose an unlucky company buys its materials just before their price falls disastrously. Current cost accounting must then charge these inputs at the low price and thus tends to raise operating profit instead of signalling danger. What has

become of the accountants' traditional caution?

The practical difficulties of estimating replacement cost can be great. This is especially true where assets are subject to technological change: what is the current cost of pack-mules that will be replaced by helicopters? How does one deal with assets that cannot be replaced in their present location or perhaps anywhere else (North Sea oil)?

A rough estimate of replacement cost may be entirely proper in managers' private calculations, yet far too controversial for legal and tax purposes. The Inland Revenue could not possibly use CCA's guesses for stock relief.

But the main doubts must concern adjustments (3) and (4)—meant to allow for the erosion of money's value. Most people regard the general index as the obvious means for measuring this. But the Accounting Standards Committee's physical concept is incompatible with the general index. So the committee has had to use much ingenuity in finding alternative tools.

Stock index

Adjustment (3)—for monetary working capital—is built on the following reasoning. Debtors are closely connected with sales of stock. Creditors are closely connected with purchases of stock. Some minimum cash flow is also needed for dealings in stock. So, to measure the erosion of these three items, treat them as if they really were stock—ie, apply the stock index of adjustment (1).

The resulting charge may sometimes be quite different from what is commonly regarded as inflation's effect on money. Moreover, the definition of the minimum cash flows must be a matter of opinion (while loss on surplus cash mountings) which are equally a prey to inflation is not measured. And many firms hold insignificant stocks (eg, insurance companies and banks): what sort of stock index should they choose? One must suspect that there will

here be scope in plenty for cosmetic calculations.

Adjustment (4) tries to show how far inflation has lightened the burden of long-term debt. To see the point clearly, one should consider a comparable lightning bolt of stable prices. Suppose as part of a reconstruction scheme to put a faltering firm back on its feet, its creditors agree to waive 60 per cent of a £100,000 long-term debt. The firm's gain is plainly £60,000.

Note that we reach this answer without any need to study the firm's assets. We have no cause to call for figures of stocks or depreciation; indeed the gain is still £60,000 if the firm holds not a pennyworth of stocks or depreciating assets.

A 60 per cent rise in the general index likewise means a lightning bolt of £60,000 of a £100,000 burden again, regardless of stocks and depreciation. The general index gives a simple and meaningful figure of benefit. But CCA's adjustment (4) must rely instead on oblique means.

It uses an impressively convoluted device. It increases profit by a fraction of the other three adjustments. The fraction is that of debt to debt plus equity (including gain on asset revaluation).

This increase is not easy to calculate, describe or justify. It does not adequately measure the impact of inflation. It fails to function well where the other adjustments are not big (for example, where firms do not own stocks or machines). As it uses the company's own guess at asset values, it gives room for window-dressing. And it pushes up this year's profit with benefits (exactly comparable with unrealized appreciation on land) that may have little effect until many years hence. So here again CCA is incautious.

The needless faults in SSAP 16 are unfortunate. They seem sure to heighten opposition to inflation accounting, to cloud the issues and to put off reforms that are long overdue.

W. T. Baxter

The author is Professor Emeritus of Accounting at the London School of Economics.

Strengthening powers of Revenue

From the General Secretary of the Inland Revenue Staff Federation.

Sir, Your report (May 28) upon the evidence by the Association of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Taxes (AIT) to the Keir committee and your comment upon the "black economy" in a leading article.

Distracted by the pay dispute, the Inland Revenue Staff Federation (IRSF) has been unable to present customary formal evidence to the committee but Lord Keith and his colleagues have been good enough to receive a lengthy letter from us. In general we fully support what the AIT has said.

Perhaps I may quote some of what we have said: "Certainly the IRSF holds the view very strongly indeed that none of the existing powers which the Inland Revenue has should be taken away. Rather should they be strengthened."

"A particular area where we believe the Revenue to be weak is in its powers to obtain information. Revenue effectiveness is limited by the paucity of information which it receives. The Revenue needs more authority for obtaining information, both from taxpayers themselves and from others. We recognize that both parliamentary and public opinion are against a line of thinking which would need to change, but I am not suggesting anything which is not quite common practice in other Western countries."

"... what is needed is a very radical reform indeed which perhaps requires complete rethinking of the way in which the Inland Revenue in Britain operates. I have been impressed with the positive attitude of American taxpayers to their Inland Revenue Service authority to proceed on 'random' audits. We are unclear what real objection there could be if the inspector, under appropriate conditions, had the right to insist upon information from a taxpayer and had the right of access to some papers simply to set about a tax audit."

"What it seems to us psychologically we need to remove is the resentment which taxpayers express when they are questioned. That does not appear to be the reaction by the public in the United States, or indeed in other countries where audit powers exist. It does, of course, follow that the power would need to be backed up by a requirement that taxpayers keep records in proper form."

"The federation has always supported proper controls on us. We have no wish to see powers which are sensitive socially and politically made available freely to everyone from top to bottom in the Inland Revenue Department." Which brings me to your leading article on two counts. First, you say that the "black economy" is not a wholly negative phenomenon. While I agree with that, it really is going much too far to justify it with "a large element of it repre-

sent encouraging evidence of vigour within the economy". What about the unfair competition between the "vigorous" wealth creator who complies with the system such as it is and the one who does not? What was "vigorous" about the poor workmanship and the damage to industrial training which were just two of the consequences of the construction industry "jump"?

Lastly, you say "the taxmen" can do little to suppress the black economy". Sadly I fear that Inland Revenue industrial action will have done something positively to stimulate the black economy, but not as much as the neglect of the problem over many years by a succession of governments. We could do a lot more, even with existing powers.

It cannot be right, can it, to have Revenue resources so limited that it is possible to review in depth the underlying records of no more than 0.3 per cent of company accounts and 3 per cent of incorporated businesses when we find that of those examined, 80 per cent need adjustment. It cannot be right, can it, not to have the resources to process so much of the existing information which the Revenue receives?

Yours faithfully, TONY CHRISTOPHER, General Secretary, Inland Revenue Staff Federation, 7 St George's Square, London SW1V 2HY. May 28.

Design and the fight to win back textile trade

From the President of the Society of Industrial Artists and Designers.

Sir, While it is true that the United States textile industry has cost advantages which we do not have, plus protective external tariffs, to imply that this is all and that we must be cautious, I seriously begin to doubt if the "leaders of the European textile industry" know what they are talking about or have any idea what the textile industry in the United States even looks like. I refer to the report from Peter Norman, May 27.

What our "leaders" continually overlook is that if colour and design are not right, you cannot give the goods away, let alone sell them at any price. When will they realize that our approach to styling is different from most comparative situations in this country, except for one or two notable exceptions such as John Lewis and Dorman, as to be ridiculous. It is as if that we do not have the talent for creativity we just do not use it properly and it quickly gets lost. Where to? To America.

The number of British subjects trained as designers in United Kingdom art schools, working in management positions in the textile and clothing industries in the United States is staggering—and growing. Not only that, but the United States art schools are now gradually being staffed with the best of British art school leavers and just the ones who cannot get a job here. America has always "creamed off" Europe's thinkers, creators and entrepreneurs, seeking a better opportunity, and so it continues.

One of the greatest natural resources of the British is inventive creative talent and instead of exploiting it, we just let it waste away. British talent plus British tradition is an unbeatable marketing weapon. Laura Ashley for example, is not just a name in America, but a style in design history, along with William Morris. One select Fifth Avenue Hotel offers "Laura Ashley Rooms" at a premium.

Instead of just whining about the competition, we need to fight back. I mean Mary Quant, Zandra Rhodes, and name designers too, who had to do it by themselves. This country could do with a dozen more like that, and we have them, unfortunately what we do not have are the right kind of leaders.

Yours faithfully, EDWARD POND, President, Society of Industrial Artists and Designers, Nash House, 12 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH. May 27.

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Yours faithfully, EDWARD POND, President, Society of Industrial Artists and Designers, Nash House, 12 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH. May 27.

Justification for pay increases

From Miss Alison Leakey.

Sir, There is one aspect of pay talks which puzzles me and which does not seem to be considered. For at least the past 20 years it has been assumed that everyone is entitled to a rise in pay every year. Why? The basic conditions justifying a rise in pay are:

1. The employer is making large profits which enable him/it to raise the general level of wages.

2. Promotion of an individual worker.

3. Additional work or additional responsibility undertaken by an individual.

4. Efficiency awards or long service awards both of which recognize that an experienced employee is worth more than a newcomer.

5. Productivity. Inflation is not *per se*, a reason for a rise in wages, if only because any increase in wages is one of the major causes of a rise in the cost of living.

One cannot but feel that some unions in the devaluation to increase their members' earnings will always give this aim priority before the general good of the country of which unions are only a part. Yours faithfully, ALISON LEAKEY, 2 Desborough Drive, Twickenham, Surrey. Herts AL6 0HH. May 26.

Returns from research in universities

From Professor D. A. Smith.

Sir, Your correspondent Mr Adrian Fisher (May 21) rightly draws attention to the need for transfer of valuable technology from our universities to international industry on a commercial rather than on a purely philanthropic basis. A number of British universities' knowledge and have set up organizations to recognize, develop, protect, and in some cases to license their inventions.

This company is wholly owned by Queen Mary College, University of London. It works closely with research workers engaged in industrially relevant research and is in close liaison with the National Research Development Corporation.

We believe that the recently proposed British Technology Corporation (BTC/NTB) could do much to employ the services of the men on the ground in the same way. Only at this local level can there be any real hope of identifying a patentable invention sufficiently early in its development to guard against premature disclosure through publication at conferences or in the journals.

Yours faithfully, DEREK SMITH, Director, Research, 226 Mile End Road, London, E1 4AA. May 21.

Agents acting for Lloyd's members

From Mr David Evers.

Sir, Since Parliament has in discussing the Lloyd's Bill, expressed views on managing agents and members' agents, may I try to clear up what seems to be widespread misconceptions about these two kinds of underwriting agent.

The first point is that the two are not really distinct in their roles being overlapping to an extent. When at Lloyd's the syndicate system first evolved, function was to manage his syndicate, with the evolution of the non-marine and aviation markets, an underwriting agent who was managing a marine syndicate would, either on his own initiative or sometimes at a syndicate member's request, act as a non-marine agent on what became known as a sub-agency basis. There is to say, on the basis of delegation of management to the other agent. This practice is still widespread at Lloyd's.

The member's agent, who differs from the managing agent only in that he is not entitled to manage any syndicate, is a relatively recent development. Members' agents tend to concentrate their efforts on looking after the member. This is not to say that many managing agents do not make a good job of doing the same thing, as well as performing their managerial role. Parliament's thinking seems to be that his "managerial" function in some way disqualifies the managing agent from looking after the member. Also, that the members' agent offers the member a wider choice of syndicates. These are unsupported value judgments. A member's agent cannot necessarily offer a wider choice of syndicates, nor need quantity in this respect be synonymous with quality. If there were to be a total separation of the managing and members' agent roles, there is no guarantee members would benefit. Indeed, I think that

several thousand Lloyd's members who had joined Lloyd's through managing agents, would have the misfortune to be left high and dry looking for a members' agent to look after them for some or all of their underwriting. Increased costs to the member could also result as managing agents sought to recover income lost to the members' new members' agent.

The fact is that though the relationship between the member and his agent is "unequal", it is becoming more equal. The discriminating new member can and does shop around between both types of agent. Space precludes a description of the advantages and disadvantages of the two. However, one thing is certain—taking away the right of a member to go "direct" to a managing agent would limit his freedom of choice. Yours faithfully, DAVID EVERS LIMITED, 14 Philip Lane, London EC3M 8AJ.

Times engineering competition draws 467 entries

A Somerset boy, an undergraduate at Christ's College, Cambridge, a girl from Middlesex and a sub-lieutenant from Plymouth's Royal Naval Engineering College are among the winners of The Times Engineering Essay Competition.

They will receive their awards from Michael Edwards, chairman of B.I., at a ceremony to be held in the London headquarters of the Engineering Employers' Federation on July 2.

Mark Rothery, a pupil at the Wellington School in Somerset whose home is at Bishops Lydeard, Taunton, and Mr Andrew Bud, a Londoner studying at Christ's College, Cambridge, took first place in their respective categories. Each will receive £500. An additional £500 will go to Mark Rothery's school at Wellington.

Two runners-up were selected in each category, and five further consolation prizes will be presented by Sir Michael to competitors in each of the two sections.

The competition was organized by The Times and the Engineering Careers Information Service. The latter is sponsored by the Engineering Industry Training Board (EITB), the Engineering Employers' Federation (EEF) and the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions.

A total of 467 entries was received from sixth formers and students at colleges of further education and universities. Undergraduate students, who competed in the second category, submitted 58 entries within the overall figure.

Entries for the first category were invited from sixth formers and full-time further education college students. The second category was also open to students at polytechnics.

Students of the competition were anxious to create a greater awareness of the role played by engineering in the daily life of the nation. Entrants were asked to say, in about 750 words, what they expected engineers to contribute in the next 10 years to the country's prosperity.

Many of the essays dealt with

the role of the engineer in applying new technology. The need to conserve energy was repeatedly stressed, with many competitors showing concern about dwindling oil supplies.

The six judges were generally pleased with the high standard of the entries submitted, considering the extremely tight restrictions on length. They were impressed by the lucidity and conciseness shown by those who reached the final short lists.

Runners-up in the schools and colleges of further education category will each receive £250. They are: Michael Benjamin, from Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, who is studying at Churchill College, Cambridge; and Mr Alexander Glasgow, who is attending Glasgow University and comes from Lossiemouth, Moray, Scotland.

Ten consolation prizes, five in each category and consisting of £50 and a copy of The Times Atlas of the World, will go to the following: Students in sixth forms and colleges of further education: Ruth Jolley, of Loughborough, Leicestershire (Loughborough High School for Girls); Peter Mason, Exdington, Birmingham (Bishop Vesey's Grammar School, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands); Michael Edwards, Taunton, Somerset.

Undergraduate prizes: Five in each category and consisting of £50 and a copy of The Times Atlas of the World, will go to the following: Students in sixth forms and colleges of further education: Ruth Jolley, of Loughborough, Leicestershire (Loughborough High School for Girls); Peter Mason, Exdington, Birmingham (Bishop Vesey's Grammar School, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands); Michael Edwards, Taunton, Somerset.

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Lord Scanlon (left), chairman of the Engineering Industry Training Board and Lord Nelson of Stafford, chairman of GEC, two of the competition judges.

don (Imperial College of Science and Technology, London); Martin King, Bickley, Bromley, Kent (Polytechnic of the South Bank, London); S. J. Mansfield, Sutton, Surrey, Essex (Polytechnic of the South Bank, London); Sub-Lieutenant Jeremy Tuck RN, Plymouth, Devon (Royal Naval Engineering College, Plymouth); and Katharine Williams, Forest Hill, London (Polytechnic of the South Bank, London).

The Engineering Careers Information Service, which provides industry-based information about careers in the engineering manufacturing industry, is celebrating its fifth anniversary this month. Members of its steering committee are drawn from each of its three sponsoring bodies, and careers advisers and educationalists are also closely involved in its work.

Literature, together with other aids for young people and those who advise them on careers choice, is offered by the ECIS, which also takes part in national and local exhibitions and conferences and coordinates

its activities with those of other bodies in the field. Judges of the competition were Lord Nelson of Stafford, chairman of GEC; Lord Scanlon, chairman of the EITB; Dr Elizabeth Laverick, deputy secretary of the Institution of Electrical Engineers; Mr Joseph Moon, director of the EITB; Mr Dennis Topping, managing editor of The Times Business News; and Mr Edward Townsend, industrial writer, The Times Business News.

Baron Phillips

Japan leaves its mark on Germany

The industrial region of Middle Franconia is one of the areas of recent prosperity that are having to come to terms with slower economic growth and the effects of Japanese competition.

In the two and a half decades that followed the creation of the Federal Republic, the cities of Nuremberg, Furtch, Erlangen and Schwabach shared automatically in the expansion of West Germany's wealth.

Although somewhat off the beaten track—the area is just over 100 km from the Czechoslovak border—the four towns grew into one of West Germany's largest conurbations.

Today more than one million people live in the area and one fifth of these are employed by industry.

The Federal Government in Bonn and the Bavarian state government in Munich were both anxious that the region, which is also close to the border with East Germany, should be integrated into the nation's economy.

Accordingly, Middle Franconia quickly became a major focal point in the West German motorway network. Of less obvious economic benefit, was the prestige project to link the Rhine and Danube rivers and so turn Nuremberg and Furtch into ports on an international waterway for heavy barges running between the North and Black Seas.

The type of industry that developed in the area in the 1950s and 1960s also angled well for the future. Erlangen, Nuremberg and Furtch became centres of the electrical industry in good time to catch the growth in West German post-war domestic demand and long before the Japanese challenge emerged.

Today 150 companies make up the electrical industry in Middle Franconia, employing 89,000 people and achieving a turnover last year of DM 12,000m (£2,500m). The industry can trace its roots to

Industry in Europe

Middle Franconia

1873 when Herr Siegmund Shuckert set up a small workshop in Nuremberg to make generators on a pattern discovered by Werner von Siemens.

Today Erlangen is, with West Berlin and Munich, one of the major production centres in West Germany of Siemens AG. The group employs more than 25,000 people in the town, which is the headquarters of its medical engineering, power engineering and electrical installations groups.

So far Siemens has come through the recession without serious difficulty. The Grundig concern in Furtch has been in a less favourable position.

Two extremely powerful concerns grew up in Furtch after the last war. One was the Quelle Mail order group, which with a turnover of DM10,000m can still claim to be Germany's largest single-family controlled group. The other was Grundig.

Dr Max Grundig built up his company into West Germany's largest and Western Europe's second largest consumer electronics concern, employing more than 30,000 people worldwide. But for the past two years, the company has been exposed to intense competition from the Japanese on both its home and export markets. The labour force, which was increased by more than one-third between 1973 and 1978, is being cut back and Dr Grundig has been forced to give up total control of his group ceding a stake and almost 25 per cent to Philips.

Grundig is not the only electrical group in the area with problems. The weakest of the

German electronics companies, AEG-Telefunken, employs more than 6,500 people producing mainly white goods in the Nuremberg-Erlangen region.

Moreover, Triumph-Adler, the Nuremberg based typewriter-to-computer concern, which was bought by Volkswagen as a first step towards diversification, turned in losses of DM60m last year.

Although unemployment in northern Bavaria is only marginally worse than the 4.9 per cent registered for West Germany as a whole, Middle Franconia is going to have to adjust to a period in which the scope for growth will be much smaller than in the past.

The region cannot hope for any increase in government subsidies. Indeed, if the Bonn Government has its way, spending on the important Rhine-Main-Danube canal will be curtailed in the coming years so that completion, which seemed a possibility for the end of the 1980s, will probably be delayed until the year 2000.

Herr Volker Hauff, the West German Transport Minister, has expressed cutting Bonn's annual contribution to the canal to DM55m a year by 1984 from DM120m this year. Because the project is financed by Bonn and Bavaria on a two-to-one basis, investment in the canal will drop to DM82.5m in 1984 from DM180m this year.

Although Nuremberg and Furtch are linked to the Rhine and the North Sea by the canal, the spending cuts will delay its extension south to the Danube.

Herr Hauff's plans are of particular concern to the Bavarian Government in Munich. According to Herr Anton Jaumann, the Bavarian Economics Minister, a cut-back in spending on the canal would represent a breach of faith with companies that have settled along its banks.

Peter Norman

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Shareholder privacy and the right to know

Resolving the apparently conflicting interests of shareholders to privacy about the size and purpose of their holdings in a company and the concerns of the company as a whole, other shareholders, and even the public at large, has never been simple. But in recent years, influenced by the Anglo American and De Beers raid on Consolidated Gold Fields and perhaps the tangled St Piran affair, the weight of opinion has shifted towards greater disclosure of the individual shareholder's position in a company.

The Department of Trade has clearly responded to this sentiment, and indeed to the specific suggestions made to it, in the recommendations published at the end of last week. Of these, possibly the most important is not the long overdue attempt to tighten up the law on concert parties, but giving companies the right more fully to investigate their own share register.

It was the inability to penetrate the disguises used by Anglo and De Beers that frustrated Consolidated Gold Fields and even led the company to believe that the buyer positively could not be interested controlled by Mr Harry Oppenheimer.

Since early April the Government has funded itself out of calls on stocks sold earlier in the spring, buoyant demand for National Savings instruments and, here and there, sales of unofficial taps. Monetary control may also have been helped by private sector purchases of gilts from overseas sellers and, perhaps, from the banking sector, too. But the underlying money supply situation is anything but clear at the moment and the authorities are now set to get the funding machine back into action, even if they are treading gingerly.

Friday's announcement that three new tranches (£250m each) of existing stocks will be available to the market from this morning seems to be a sensible way of going about things. The market was looking appreciably perkier last week: large, gilded dividends have been flowing into institutional coffers recently; United States interest rate prospects are looking rather brighter; and there are hopes that the civil servants' pay dispute may now be quickly resolved without any serious damage to the Government's stand on public sector pay. Even so, experience has taught that a major issue—a £1,000m conventional issue, for example—always runs the risk of nipping a promising recovery prospect in the bud.

If there is good demand for the new stocks (and the encouraging United States money supply figures on Friday evening should improve confidence further) then it will be interesting to see how the authorities follow-up. A good deal must depend, of course, on whether the civil servants' dispute is in fact resolved on a satisfactory basis. But even if that is the case and deferred tax payments start to flow back into the Exchequer, that will not be the end of the matter.

This revenue is, after all, no more than revenue already built into the Government's arithmetic. What the authorities need to decide is how much funding they now have to do to keep underlying monetary growth on target. Taking advantage of a renewed surge of market optimism would obviously be tempting. But to do so at a moment when tax payments may well be flowing strongly to the Exchequer would obviously make for a potentially difficult period for money market operations.

THF/Savoy Enter the shareholders

The deadline for first acceptances to Trusthouse Forte's £67m bid for Savoy Hotels falls five minutes before the Derby on Wednesday. At the moment the betting strongly favours the Savoy board emerging victorious at least from this preliminary round in its battle for independence.

At Friday's close Savoy's widely held "A" shares remained doggedly 3p above the 190p cash offer and THF still seems to be facing an unbridgeable gap in its efforts to break down traditional shareholder loyalty to the Savoy directors.

THF, having failed in the High Court to drive a wedge into the Savoy's voting structure, now controls more than half of the equity but only a third of the votes. And with the Savoy board thought to influence around 45 per cent of the votes the bidder

needs to win over something approaching four-fifths of the uncommitted holdings. In commercial terms, of course, THF's bid looks generous, notwithstanding the revaluation which has lifted asset backing to 281p a share—and with which THF took strong issue in a circular to Savoy shareholders on Friday.

Even before last year's £1.8m loss, Savoy's profit record was awful and Sir Hugh Wontner's board has yet to come up with overwhelming evidence that it can achieve a reasonable return on its £85m of assets. Shareholders will no doubt press their board further on this issue at the annual meeting today. The Savoy, of course, is banking on its shareholders judging the issue with their hearts rather than their pockets, turning the battle around hotel standards, independence and tradition. But there must be a price at which THF or perhaps Grand Metropolitan, which seems the likeliest counterbidder, can overcome emotional attachment and that price may not be a great deal higher than the current offer.

For that reason shareholders in for purely financial reasons need perhaps concern themselves simply with balancing the prospect of a higher bid perhaps up to 230p against the danger of a plunge to the pre-offer level of 125p should THF withdraw and a further bidder fail to emerge. On that basis selling in the market would be the safest route.

Rights issues A way of investing blind

One seldom gets something for nothing but the raising of money from shareholders through rights issues often comes near. If a bank lends money to a company it will understandably want collateral, demand to know what the money is to be used for, and keep an eye on how it is spent. It can also get its money back. On balance these seem good ways of ensuring that the company will spend the money wisely.

But if a company gets the money from shareholders it can do what it likes. Cash is still raised from shareholders on the basis that shareholders serve companies, and not as it should be, the other way round. The money is raised on little more than trust, and if a shareholder dislikes a particular capital raising he can only avoid paying up by reducing his stake in the group. Companies are still allowed to raise equity capital to grow fat rather than grow fit, and there is a good case for requiring such hungry companies to provide more detailed information about their plans than they give now.

The argument for doing so has become urgent because finance directors are finding that rights issue money is irresistibly cheap. It is, of course, to the advantage of the company to obtain money cheaply, but it is also to its advantage (and that of the shareholders) to see money spent efficiently.

Consider some of the latest cash calls. Guardian Royal Exchange has sent the whole composite insurance sector reeling by asking for £79m hard on Royal Insurance getting £16m last January. Royal has not done anything obvious with its money while Guardian wants cash to buy companies abroad. But who they are and on what terms they can be bought are not, of course, known. Guardian did say profits were 14 per cent up in the first quarter but there was no profits forecast.

Between them, Cadbury, Schweppes and Rowntree Macintosh have created £37m of sweatpaper. Cadbury reported an encouraging start to the year, and at the recent annual meeting, Sir Adrian Cadbury, the chairman, said the issue would ensure that the group was able to plan ahead and to take opportunities as they occur, without being held back by financial constraints.

The latest example, at the end of last week, the £8.75m cash call from AGC Research, was by no means the most cryptic. This group reported in detail on a good year, and said something about its investment plans. But it also said it was too early to make any predictions for the current financial year.

Equity investment is necessarily risky, but the least shareholders should be given in return for hard cash is a reasonable account of how the company intends to look after it.

A facet of publishing that is little known outside the trade is book packaging, an often innovative and highly successful industry within an industry.

The first, internationally known packager, and still the biggest, is Rainbird. The company was started 30 years ago by Mr George Rainbird, who left advertising to enter publishing. With little capital, Mr Rainbird had no easy entry into publishing, and soon latched on to the packaging idea.

The packager thinks of a marketable idea for a book, signs up an author, commissions illustrations and design work, arranges printing, and, on the basis of a dummy copy, seeks a certain number of international sales to publishers.

The advantage the packager has is that he bears none of the publisher's overheads. The advantage to the publisher is that the packager provides the sort of high-powered sales and marketing operation which is beyond the scope of most publishing houses.

From its first package, an illustrated guide to various exotic plants, entitled *The Temple of Flora*, and published by William Collins, Rainbird has developed into a prosperous organization with 39 staff, offices in Mayfair and an annual turnover of £1m.

In spite of a stream of successes, which have included *Tutankhamun* and *The Sun King*, Rainbird has recently been finding it hard going with its very low profit margins on each sale. Mr Michael O'Mara, its Philadelphia-born managing director, reckons that 30 per cent is the ideal margin, but that requires sales of at least 70,000 for any worthwhile profit.

The average book sells about 2,000 copies, with a mark-up for the publisher of three or four times the cost of production. The essence of packaging is that it is entirely dependent on large sales. Accordingly, packagers concentrate their efforts on very few books each year.

Rainbird, for instance, is producing 14 books this year. But significantly, four of these books are not major packaging but joint publishing operations. Mr O'Mara says: "In a normal year I would not expect to get more than ten big sellers. It's not worth bothering with anything less."

We looked at books which would sell 10,000 and



Miss Rowena Stott, great-niece of Edith Holden, author of *The Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady*, with Richard Webb (left), Webb & Bower managing director, and Delian Bower, editorial director.

The book packagers' expanding library

had to reject them. But if a publisher will share the cost of producing the book, and share the profits, then we can share about making £2 per book instead of 50p. That opens up a whole new area, and enables us to take risks that we couldn't take before."

Other packagers have done likewise. Including Webb and Bower, the Exeter-based company responsible for what turned out to be an extraordinary packaging coup, *The Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady*.

Webb and Bower, now a fully fledged publishing firm, received a royalty on every copy sold, with a percentage going to Miss Stott.

Book packaging is increasingly hard to define, with so many firms having departed both from the standard 10in by 7in illustrated book, half-way between an ordinary book and a picture book, and started in 1975 as a packaging

operation producing four or five books a year for Britain and the United States and was run entirely by Mr Richard Webb and Mr Delian Bower from their Devon homes 25 miles apart.

Then a young Exeter art student Miss Rowena Stott, approached Mr Webb's wife at a party, and asked if Mr Webb might be interested in her great-aunt's diary.

Two years later *The Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady* was published by Michael Joseph. It topped the best-seller list for a year, and remained in the list for three years. It is still selling well, and will soon have achieved sales of two million. It has been translated into 12 languages, including Japanese.

This enabled Webb and Bower to expand. It now has an annual turnover of £1.7m a full-time staff of 12, and is about to move into a large Regency

house in the middle of Exeter. Delian Bower, the 46-year-old joint founder-managing director, is evidently delighted that his company can now afford to publish books without any pictures at all. It is almost as if he had suddenly become respectable.

But he would be the first to acknowledge his debt to *The Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady* which was, in many senses, the perfect package. It was written in a marvellously readable hand and the author had also illustrated it. All it required was the effort of turning it into a book.

After initially hawking it around America, Webb and Bower found British publishers queuing up to buy it. The final deal with Michael Joseph was technically a co-publication, under which Webb and Bower a coffee-table book, and from the pure package deal into co-publication and similar ventures.

Mitchell-Beazley, now a very successful publisher with an annual turnover of £10m, started book packaging in 1969, and pioneered a new style of consumer-oriented books which combined photographs, graphics, maps and text, often spread across two pages.

The World Atlas of Wine, which has sold a million copies worldwide, was the company's first big success. Mitchell-Beazley became a full-scale publisher in 1974. Since then it has more than trebled in size.

Mr James Mitchell, the company's joint founder, says: "Books are becoming smaller because they are so expensive to make. We're having to work a lot harder just to stand still; packagers are finding that their profit margins are too small and therefore they are going increasingly into co-publishing."

But Mr Mitchell did not see the hundreds of small packagers necessarily being forced out of business. "There is always room for anyone with a good idea. You need genius to make out in the present market, and a lot of the best ideas come from the small outfits."

One fairly small packager which might well have succumbed to the recession and the strong pound is Harrow House Editions, based in Covent Garden and enjoying the backing of the massive Time/Life organization since it took a majority shareholding in 1977. Harrow House averages four books a year.

Mr Nicholas Eddison, joint managing director, says: "There's a new risk involved because publishers are not willing to commit themselves until we've gone further down the line."

"We spend an average of £5,000 on a presentation, signing up the author, commissioning the artwork and so on, and if we can't get enough orders, we just have to write that money off. In order to survive, we will need increasingly to work with publishers, promoting our books."

Harrow House seems to be safe for a good while, thanks to one inspired idea—a book called *After Man*, and described as "a geology of the future." It speculates on life 50 million years from now. The popular zoologist, Desmond Morris, has written a foreword, and pre-sales have topped 140,000.

Rupert Morris

Anthony Hilton

Business goes back to basics

New York

In the 1960s International Telephone and Telegraph (ITT) and Ling Temco Vought (LTV) snapped out what seemed the obvious business philosophy of the affluence of the 1960s, called synergy, and it expressed the belief that in business good management could make two plus two equal five.

Seldom out of the headlines, their then chief executives, Mr Harold Geneen at ITT, and Mr James Ling at LTV, sparked off the merger boom which in Britain spawned Mr Jim Slater. Huge new companies were created embracing a host of unconnected industries with no underlying logic other than the belief that if there was one thing a good manager could run better than one business, it was two.

But the seventies showed synergy did not always work. Mr Geneen's plan to take ITT quite as far as he could, it worked at all. So now ITT, LTV and others are leading American business in a different direction with a new philosophy appropriate to these uncertain times. What is being said today is that three minus two equals five.

Already their thinking has made its mark. While huge mergers still capture the headlines, much of American industry is pointing in quite the opposite direction. Companies which used to believe wholeheartedly in acquisition and size for its own sake are quietly selling off much of what they bought and going back to basics, back to the paper and forest products business. Last autumn Richardson-Merrell sold its

followed by 17 more the following year, and a further 17 in 1980. Its new chief executive, Mr Rand Araskog, has unloaded everything from an electronics business to a vitamin business in British Columbia, and in the process raised \$660m (£320m). This has meant that for the first time in years debt has stopped rising and earnings have edged ahead.

More spectacular was the decision of Esmark, the Chicago-based food and chemical company, to cash in on the oil stock boom last summer by selling Vickers, its energy subsidiary, for \$100m. Then a few weeks later it floated off Swift, its meat packing business, as a separate stock market company in which it retained a relatively modest stake. Turnover was halved to \$3,000m as a result of the sales, but the company now has cash galore and is using some of it to buy a strategic stake in Eurex, a maker of detergents and household products.

In the same vein, but even bigger, Seagram, the Canadian distilling company which is the largest wine and spirits business in the world, sold its energy interests to Sun Oil. It now has \$3,700m to invest which is more, in fact, than its annual sales of \$2,500m.

Elsewhere, Union Carbide is just coming to the end of a four-year programme in which it has raised \$1,000m by selling its unprofitable, if not exactly dead wood, American Can announced plans in April to sell off its paper and forest products business. Last autumn Richardson-Merrell sold its

ethical pharmaceutical business to Dow Chemical. This spring, Allegheny sold off its steel business. And at LTV, annual sales of \$2,000m were not enough to make it keep its subsidiary, Wilson Foods.

Even Mr Sandy Lewis, the Wall Street investment banker who stands to make \$3m in fees when American Express finalizes its purchase of stockbrokers, Shearson Loeb Rhoades, thinks that to look only at mergers is to miss the point. "American management has realized its job is to make the best possible use of assets, be they in their own company or in other people's. That makes it much easier for them to shed some assets and shop around for what they really want. Companies are much better at doing deals now. They are much less nervous," he says.

First Boston Corporation, the Wall Street investment bank involved in some of the year's biggest deals, agrees. Mr David Wasserstein, a director, says much of their work is in advising on divestitures and strategic

planning. "Industry is preparing for the 1980s and 1990s. Companies are rounding out their positions, or getting an extra leg," he says.

They are prompted, he believes, by the uneasy feeling that there will be no quick return to the days of easy growth, and that in the battle between American, Japanese and European rivals in world markets, only the best will survive. That means concentrating on the assets which yield the best return and only going into businesses at which you are sure you can be good.

Virtue has its rewards. Almost without exception, the companies which are selling rather than solving their problems, have become darlings of the stockmarket, which helps ease any misgivings among management and shareholders alike.

Nor is this illogical. Selling assets yielding a below average return automatically increases the yield on what is left, without management having to lift a finger.

Perhaps equally important,

divestment has the smack of firm management about it. It gives the impression of a board willing to take difficult decisions, with a clear idea of where it is going. And, ironically, even if the company only knows where it is not going, and has little idea how to spend its new money, it can still make a profit with interest rates at current levels simply by paying the cash on deposit. Or it can repay debts to cut its own interest burden.

Like all theories, divestment may be overdone in time. But at least it seems to be more firmly based than some ideas. The influential Strategic Planning Institute at Harvard, for example, believes strongly that companies with dominant market shares can expect to be the most profitable, whatever industry they are in. So there is empirical backing for the hunch that cobblers should stick to their last. The difference is that Wall Street is now beginning to see the virtue in companies which concentrate on what they know, and on what they are good at.

Business Diary profile: Hedley Whitehead of the Co-op

Hedley Whitehead, who is being installed in Edinburgh today as the next annual president of the Co-operative Congress, the co-op movement's annual parliament, looks likely to find himself overseeing some of the most tumultuous months yet faced by the movement.

As more societies hit worsening financial and trading problems leading to mergers or other eleven-hour rescues, his influence could be considerable, especially in the growing debate over the quality of management the movement needs at the retail level. Whitehead is chairman of the North East Co-operative Society (NECS) which he has shepherded to success in the past decade as the first true region-wide society. He is also chairman of CIS, the movement's profitable insurance arm, and is on the board of the Co-operative Wholesale Society (CWS), the last of a dying breed of full-time directors who predated a shift of power in CWS towards its professional executives.

He shrugs off his 64 years with a work schedule which centres around constant commuting, between his Carlisle home, the Gateshead headquarters of NECS and the Manchester base of CIS and CWS.

But over the weekend, almost a thousand co-operators gathered in Scotland, he has had to listen, like everybody else, mostly to talk of which society is in the most trouble.

In reality it consists of about 180 sovereign retail societies around Britain, from the comparatively small, including some notably efficient ones like Ipswich, Ilkerton, Colchester and Cambridge—to the distinctly large.

Some of the larger ones have their problems, including Royal Arsenal and South Suburban, both south of the Thames, and Greater Midlands in the Birmingham area. Funding superstore development and rationalization are the main bugbears.

The CWS, the £1,800m-sales

giant of the movement, is manufacturer and wholesaler to the retail societies and, while owned by them, is the largest single source of professional expertise from accounting to marketing.

The thing to understand about the movement is the importance of the democratic voice. This is expressed through various interlocking committees involving the retail societies and the national bodies like CWS, together with CIS and the Co-op Bank. Like a family, the co-op movement is subject to

rows, rumours and an unrestrained quickly to reach overall agreement about where to go next.

Whitehead says: "I am not simply running a business in the North-east. I am concerned with running a cooperative enterprise which is a business plus a social purpose."

The problem is that social purpose, which emerges from members who vote in the governing boards of the societies, can get in the way of commercial good sense. The movement tries to keep shops open in small communities for the community good rather than for a sensible profit margin.

But some retail societies, whatever the expertise of their professional managers, fail to face up to the need to change.

It is when societies leave a deteriorating situation too late that the only route they can take is to merge their individuality in a larger unit.

The other option is to be bailed out by Co-operative Retail Services (CRS), of which Alf Lee is chief executive. CRS last year increased its sales by nearly 16 per cent, only marginally down on the previous year's performance, and managed still a creditable net profit margin of 3 per cent compared with 1979's 3.2 per cent.

CRS has been an ambulance service for retail society societies to the tune, so far, of 166 societies.

But it is not only the successful small societies which show there is another path. Whitehead's NECS, created out of 31 fading societies in 1970, has demonstrated what can be done on a regional basis—and this in an area which is one of the

worst hit in the country by recession. Whitehead says: "You have also to allow for the fact that round there like their plant cigarettes and a flutter on their sharp shoppers—and the competition from Asda and Tesco is also intense."

This is reflected in last year's NECS results: turnover is up more than 20 per cent but trading profit is down by 30 per cent leading to just over £1m profit going to reserves, a third of that retained the previous year.

But Whitehead says the North-east society increased its share of the area's grocery market by 20 per cent, partly through superstore operation but also smaller discount supermarkets. The society also has discount outlets for electrical and other household goods, and operations in growth areas like tourism and garages.

Whitehead says: "We must be highly efficient. You can't be that if you are looking over your shoulder all the time for members' pressures and if normal tenets of sound business are being interfered with, even from very good motives."

Perhaps the movement is lucky in having a president this year who has not only proved an ability to survive commercially but who also cares about the movement's philosophical soul and community commitment. It was NECS which recently supported local industry by offering a shop window for goods made in the North-east, an idea now being taken up elsewhere in the movement.

Derek Harris



Another episode in Cooperation Street: can new Georgeie boss Whitehead succeed in the face of the odds?

This advertisement complies with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange



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£82,003,204
9 per cent. Convertible Unsecured Loan Stock 2001/2006
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BOC INTERNATIONAL plc

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21 Moorfields,
London EC2P 2HT

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and The Stock Exchange

Tokyo gold market makes quiet debut as dealers hold back

Japan's first formal gold market opened Friday with hopes that gold traders, bankers, stockbrokers and the merely wealthy would contribute to a gold rush.

The first session, shortened by opening ceremonies, set the price for prompt delivery at 3,497 yen per gramme, or \$485 per troy ounce.

Officials at the market, run by the firm of Tokinai Co., said the price reflected the upturn on the New York market, which ended at \$480.482. But turnover was light at only 14 kilos as many dealers were initially a little nervous.

Mr Hyozo Kikuchi, the president of the market, said he hoped it would develop to give indications of fair gold prices to the Japanese public and changes in traders and floor operators to train themselves ahead of the opening of a public gold market.

The market, with 95 members including futures commodities trading companies, gold traders and jewellers, would set gold prices as leading Japanese trad-

Brewer tops £4m midway

Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries made £4.4m pre-tax in the six months to March 31, 1981, against £3.9m a year earlier, and Mr Edwin Thompson, the chairman and managing director, is optimistic about the future. "I think we'll continue to do well," he says. "Things are rosier for the smaller brewer than the rest just now." In 1979-80 the group made £9.1m.

The interim dividend is 10 per cent higher than a year ago at 2.36p gross, adjusting for the June 1980 scrip issue.

Turnover rose by 14 per cent to just over £34m during the first half, in spite of falling beer consumption nationally.

Attributable profits before an £168,000 extraordinary credit on property disposals, are £109,000 lower thanks to a 45 per cent increase in the tax charge, to nearly £2m.

This is because the bulk of the capital allowances on the group's modernization and expansion programme had been used to set against taxation last year.

Sharp fall expected for Reed

This week

strong performance but the Quebec City mill has experienced a further drop in tonnage. This, in turn, has squeezed margins and in spite of rationalization no improvement is on the cards.

Debenham's full-year profits, also expected tomorrow, have caused a problem for analysts who have been busy upgrading their estimates. Now indications are for profits of between £16m and £19m compared with £11.5m last time. But it is the expected inclusion of exceptional items that has confounded most of the experts. Last year these extra items accounted for an extra £4.3m pushing profits up to £15.8m.

The Christmas and January sales proved a real boom to the group, which at the halfway stage reported profits down from £4.7m to £1.3m. But in spite of this strong second-half recovery the board is unlikely to recommend an increase in the final dividend, which last year was 6.2p gross. With the dividend covered only 11 times and a large jump of the profits coming from property sales and disposals there is just the hint of a rights issue.

There is little sign of improvement this year and although volume sales are up the group will be hard pressed to beat £20m.

The recent fall in the value of sterling and a stronger performance from the United States should ensure a small improvement in profits of between £140m and £147m compared with £137m last year.

While little, if any, growth is expected on the pharmaceutical side, a result of continuing de-stocking, the group's United States interests appear to be over the worst. Marketing costs for Aquafresh should be well down as the reward for its efforts begin to be felt. In addition, the first full contribution is expected, from its



Mr Keith Showers, chairman and chief executive of Allied Breweries.

United States acquisitions in the men's toiletries field.

Elsewhere, Japan has picked up well and after a weak first half Europe has made further progress.

The fall in the value of sterling during the second half should only result in currency losses of £1m compared with £3m in the first half. The current year might even produce a small currency surplus.

At the interim stage the dividend was increased by 7½ per cent and an improvement of about 10 per cent might be on the cards for the final, which stood at 4.6p gross.

Prospects this year will depend very much on its latest drug, Augmentin.

Allied Breweries is expected to see a further setback in profits when full-year figures are released on Friday. Predictions are for profit of £50m to £97m compared with £113m last time.

Interest rates resulting from its takeover of J. Lyons continue to be a drag on resources and a possible rights issue is awaited in several quarters.

Trading of J. Lyons remains patchy. The meat side is losing money and conditions in the tea and coffee market remain volatile. Heavy competition also continues to present problems.

Little improvement is expected on the beer side where the fall in volume sales continues

Why a rise in MLR could help gilts

For several weeks now the gilt market has been upset by talk of higher interest rates and has been relegated by investors to the quiet corners of the Stock Exchange. But last week's stream of company rights issues has brought gilts back in favour.

After a steady climb through the week the Government Securities Index closed on Fri-

Brokers' views

day up 0.42 at 67.67 and gilts at average were better by 1½. The previous day's rise had been 0.28 to 67.25.

The renewed support was partly due to the trend set by the 1 per cent cut in United States prime rates to 20 per cent at Chase Manhattan and the Bank of Los Angeles. This allayed speculation that United States rates might reach 21 per cent.

But Mr Tim Congdon, of stockbrokers L. Messel, describes the argument that United Kingdom short-term interest rates need follow those in the United States as unconvincing because the authorities have no policy of influencing the exchange rate at present. He also asks whether an MLR increase would really be bad news for the gilt market: since industry would react with more caution the economy would be deflated and inflation lowered, and so the gilt market would be excited, not depressed, he says. However, Mr Congdon expects interest rates to remain where they are for many months.

Earlier last week, Mr Bill Buchanan, of brokers Scrimgeour, Kenyon-Gee, predicted that better news on the United States economic front and money supply figures may mean that the worst is over in the gilt market. His view is that recent industrial production figures, down 0.4 per cent in March, and the fall in manufacturers' stocks, show there is no sign of an early economic recovery which might threaten an inflationary upsurge on money supply and interest rates.

Overall, however, Mr Buchanan saw the United States interest rates as the dominant factor in the market's recent weakness and expected that the downturn would lead to trading recovery. The forecast for a new tap from the Government Broker to help finance the seasonally high June CGBR was therefore partly right with the offer of three tranches of long Government securities valued at £750m last Friday.

Scrimgeour also regarded the recent estimates for 1980 to 1981 PSBR figures of £13,297m, some £150m less than that forecast in the Budget Red Book, as encouraging news. Even better, he said, was the improvement in estimates for local authority finances and nationalized industries finances. This offers some hope that this year's PSBR target of £10,566m may be within reach.

Much of the market's attention recently has been focused on smaller companies, particularly the recovery stocks, since investors appear to be keeping clear of blue chips for the time being. So Capel-Cure Myers' research into 16 small companies makes interesting reading.

Bulmer & Lumb Holdings lately reported pre-tax profits falling to £776,000 from £1,011m but maintained the dividend. Capel's analysts recommend holding on to Bulmer's shares on the current high-yield basis as an attractive investment in the wool industry despite warnings of difficult trading.

Boys in W. N. Sharpe Holdings are recommended as good value on the strength of its record. A premium rating is expected although the shares, at 355p, are on an historic 52 p/c cent taxed p/e ratio of only 10.5.

Philip Robinson

Margareta Pagano

Business appointments

New deputy chairman at Atomic Energy Authority

Mr A. M. Allen, board member for finance and administration of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, has become deputy chairman.

Mr Ronald Emmanuel is now chairman of Wheeler's Restaurants.

Mr H. J. de Ruiter, regional coordinator Africa and South Asia, has been made a director of Shell International Petroleum Company.

Mr R. R. Wiles, corporate managing director of Ciba-Geigy and a former managing director of The Clayton Aniline Company, has taken over the chairmanship of The Clayton Aniline Company. Mr A. Kemp, formerly director of finance for Ciba-Geigy (UK) as director of group strategy. Mr Kemp also becomes a member of the board and the management committee of The Clayton Aniline Company. Mr R. E. S.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	12%
Barclays	12%
BCCI	12%
Consolidated Credits	12%
C. Hoare & Co.	12%
Lloyds Bank	12%
Midland Bank	12%
Nat Westminster	12%
TSB	12%
Williams and Glyn's	12%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 9%, up to £50,000 9½%, over £50,000 10½%.

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The Over-the-Counter Market

4,158	Airsprung, Group	72	-1	4.7	6.5	11.4	15.8
1,225	Armitage & Rhodes	49	-1	1.4	2.9	20.2	46.7
12,220	Bardon Hill	200	-	9.7	4.9	7.5	12.8
8,001	Deboran Services	104	-	5.5	5.3	5.1	9.8
3,899	Frank Horsell	104	+1	6.4	6.2	3.3	6.0
8,524	Frederick Parker	59	-	1.7	2.9	25.7	-
1,181	George Blair	64	-	3.1	4.8	-	-
2,625	Jackson Group	105	+2	6.9	6.6	4.0	3.1
17,804	James Burroughs	129	+1	7.9	6.1	10.6	10.6
3,244	Robert Jenkins	318	-2	31.3	9.8	-	-
2,700	Scruttons 'A'	55	-	5.3	9.6	4.0	4.0
3,123	Tordley Limited	203	-1	15.1	7.4	3.5	7.8
3,098	Twinklond Ord	145	+1	-	-	-	-
2,047	Twinklond 15% VLS	75	+1	15.0	20.0	-	-
6,561	Unilock Holdings	43	-1	3.0	7.0	6.6	10.5
12,779	Walter Alexander	101	-	5.7	5.6	5.6	8.9
5,951	W. S. Yeates	255	-	13.1	5.1	4.8	9.8

Briefly

British Sugar Corporation: Shareholders have decisively rejected the offer by commodity dealers S. and W. Beristford. As the deadline for acceptance passed (May 26) Beristford had secured only 0.21 per cent (126,752 shares). Beristford's total shareholding in British Sugar, with shares acquired before the bid, would amount to 9.49 per cent. Beristford has extended the offer to shareholders until June 9.

Monks Investment Trust: Pretax revenue for year to April 30, 1981, £2,922 (£2,986). Total dividend unchanged at 3.42p gross.

London Atlantic Investment Trust: Profit, after tax, £583,000 (£580,000). Total dividend, gross, 6.78p (6.42p).

Dormakind: Rubber Estates: Pretax profits for 1980, £46,507 (£41,237). Total gross dividend, 4.28p (3.92p).

British Car Auction: In response to rights issue of 3.45m new ordinary shares at 60p each, 34m shares received for 3.3m shares (94.86 per cent).

John Mowlen: Acceptances received for 3.77m shares (about 85 per cent) of the 3.95m offered as "rights".

Jersey General Investment Trust is making a one-for-one scrip issue. Revenue, after tax, for year to April 30, 1981, £295,000 (£340,000). Total gross dividend, 20p (16.5p).

Saga Holidays has bought the freehold of the Cumbria Grand Hotel, together with its contents, for £250,000 cash.

New Threemountain Trust: Pretax revenue for year to March 31, 1981, £1,151 (£1,211). Total gross dividend, 2.85p (2.57p).

Floyd Oil Participations: Acceptances in respect of the rights issue of 1.5m new shares at 100p each, 1.5m shares received for 1.5m shares (100 per cent).

Solicitors' Law Stationery Society: Sir Edward Singleton, chairman, told shareholders at the AGM that the first quarter results had produced a modest profit, despite continuing difficult conditions.

There was a long way to go before the board could claim to have restored the group's net earnings to an acceptable level, but the evidence of the beginning of a recovery could now be seen.

Mr Loomis sent the letter to

Robertson Foods fail to meet forecast

Pretax profits for Robertson Foods for 1980 were lower than forecasts given two months ago when the group attempted to fight off an £18m bid from the Avana Group.

Profits are £270,000 down at £2.28m on sales reduced by £4.4m to £80.4m. After an exceptional debit of £118,000, tax charge of £722,000 and an extraordinary item of £2.12m, the group is left with an attributable loss of £565,000. The costs of the defence against the Avana bid are included in the extraordinary item.

Avana, the expanding Cardiff-based food manufacturer, has now received 96.54 per cent acceptance to its offer which was launched in January.

Robertson, makers of "Golly" jams has a stagnant profit record—profits have hovered around £2m to £2.5m since 1973 despite growing sales. It made an all out effort to fight off the Avana takeover and accused Avana of taking advantage of its high share price to make the offer.

The potentially costly distinction between brokers and dealers

Briefing



Mr John Biffen: power of approval.

Big financial institutions, pension funds and insurance companies with many millions to invest, know the difference between a stockbroker and a licensed dealer.

The Yellow Pages—a favourite for the uninitiated to choose an agent to buy and sell shares—offer no such acknowledgment of a difference which has become suddenly important.

In the book through which it is claimed 34 million people let their fingers do the walking, both are lumped under the one heading: stockbrokers.

It is a common mistake, but one for which a high price is paid when things go wrong. The difference between brokers and licensed dealers for investors is mainly the extent to which financial affairs are monitored and whether investors can get their money back should the firm collapse.

If a stockbroking firm goes under, as with Norman Collins and Heddewick Striding Gurnar, the Stock Exchange's compensation fund—financed by all exchange members—picks up the tab. Investors are repaid at the price of their holding prevailing on the day the brokers went under. If a licensed dealer fails, investors may have to fight it out with the other creditors.

Had those with the crashed Norton Warburg concern had their money with Heddewicks, they would not be fighting court cases to recover their losses.

Stockbrokers have monthly, quarterly and annual checks made on their finances. Licensed dealers are required to fill annual returns with Companies House.

The collapse of Norton Warburg for £5m and the Department of Trade's separate action on three other licensed dealers have focused sharp attention on the rules governing non-members of the Stock Exchange

that want to deal in securities. At present each licensed dealing company has to be approved by Mr John Biffen, the Trade Secretary, and anyone wishing to deal has also to get approval annually. They have to deposit £500, pay £26 for the licence and satisfy the department that they are fit and proper people to deal.

They are governed by the Prevention of Fraud Investments (1958) Act which evolved from an act in the 1930s to tighten up on what was then an epidemic of share pushers.

There are about 350 licensed firms and 700 individuals. Providing they meet the financial criteria and their references are in order the DoT is bound to grant a licence. The act says "will rather than may". There is no element of discretion.

Three years ago the DoT issued a consultative paper asking for views on the act, but this was interrupted by a

change of Government and has been gathering dust ever since. Among proposed changes then were an increase in the deposit and a requirement for an insurance policy to cover investors' cash.

But with the collapse of Norton Warburg, the DoT is now looking at whether the act contributed to the troubles of dealers and also whether changes should be made as details of the collapse emerges.

If any are thought necessary, they would have to be introduced as amendments. There is no parliamentary time for a full Bill.

Central to the issue is whether licensed dealers should be required by law to hold separate bank accounts for the company's money and the investment cash of its clients, either individually or collectively.

This would mean that should the company fail, at least the investors' money would be available for repayment and not considered part of a general claim by creditors of the collapsed company.

Separate bank accounts are already maintained by some licensed dealers, and it is a requirement for membership of the Licensed Dealers Association, a body set up two years ago and admitted as a member of the Council for the Securities Industry—the City's ultimate self regulatory watchdog whose chairman is Mr Patrick Neill—in February last year.

The association would not claim to represent every part of its industry, but its objectives have been to improve the image of the licensed dealer.

Until the problems are sorted out, it could well pay investors at least to discover what kind of agent is acting for them, and whether they carry some form of investor cover.

Philip Robinson

Margareta Pagano

Brixton Estate

International investors in commercial property

Annual Report 1980

- 36% increase in investment profits.
- 30% increase in proposed net dividend.
- Net asset value up from £81 million to £110 million.
- 1 for 5 bonus issue proposed.
- Funds available to finance all current commitments.

	1980	1979
Net Rental Income	\$10,555,000	\$8,885,000
Gross Profit	\$4,099,000	\$3,319,000
Value of Investment Properties	\$171,000,000	\$150,000,000
Earnings per Share	5.19p	4.16p

Copies of the Report and Accounts for 1980 may be obtained from The Secretary, 22-24 By Place, London, EC1N 6TG.

مركز الاستثمار

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

[illegible]

CONTRACTS AND TENDERS

BAUCHI STATE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

TENDER NOTIFICATION LIGHT VEHICLES

Supply and delivery of Road Construction Plant to Bauchi State Agricultural Development Project (BSADP) in Bauchi Nigeria.

The Federal Government of Nigeria expects to receive a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) towards the cost of the BSADP and it is intended that proceeds of this loan will be applied to payments under the contracts for which this invitation is issued. Payments will be made only upon approval by IBRD in accordance with the terms and conditions of the loan agreement.

Category	Item	Quantity
1	1600-2000 cc Saloon Cars	25
2	1600-2000 cc Pick-up Trucks	90
2	Four Wheel Drive Long Wheel Base Pick-up	25

The following important conditions will apply—

- Bidders may quote for the supply of one or more complete categories.
- Bidders may only quote for the supply of Light Vehicles manufactured in member countries of the IBRD, Switzerland and Taiwan.
- A 15% margin of preference in Bid Evaluation will be allowed for plant and equipment manufactured in Nigeria.
- The Bidder must have an established Agent in Nigeria with fully equipped workshop facilities, comprehensive spares, warehouse and must carry out the Manufacturers warranty maintenance.

Bidding documents containing all instructions and specifications may be obtained from:

The Chief Engineer
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Tel. 01-836 8918
Telex: 24973

All applications for Bidding Documents must be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of £100 payable to:

B.A.S.R.A. Ltd.

Completed bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes to the office of the Chief Engineer, B.S.A.D.P. Bauchi by 1700 hrs SUNDAY, 30th AUGUST 1981

Bids will be opened in Public at the above office at 1100 hrs MONDAY, 31st AUGUST, 1981.

Programme Manager
B.S.A.D.P.

BAUCHI STATE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

TENDER NOTIFICATION TRUCKS AND EQUIPMENT

Supply and Delivery of Road Construction Plant to Bauchi State Agricultural Development Project (BSADP) in Bauchi, Nigeria.

The Federal Government of Nigeria expects to receive a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) towards the cost of the BSADP and it is intended that proceeds of this loan will be applied to payments under the contracts for which this invitation is issued. Payments will be made only upon approval by IBRD in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Loan Agreement.

TRUCKS AND EQUIPMENT

Category	Item	Description	Quantity
1	1	1600-2000 cc Saloon Car	5
2	1	Four-wheel drive, Long wheel base, Pick-up	15
3	1	Breakdown accident/recovery vehicle	1
4	1	56kw Agricultural Tractor	20
5	1	7,000 kg Truck Chassis Unit with mounted 4 cu. metre Tipping Body	10
6	1	Self-loading flat deck vehicle	5
7	1	15 Tonnes hydraulic crane	10
8	1	9,000 litre Water Bowser, with spray bar	20
9	1	4 Wheel drive mobile workshop units	5
10	1	Site Caravan Units	5
11	1	Concrete Mixer Units	5
12	1	Agricultural tipping trailers 3,000 Kg capacity	10
13	2	1,800 litre Water Bowser	20
14	1	Rubber Tyred Wheel Loader-Excavator	4
15	1	Base Plate mounted Mobile Servicing Unit	5

The following important conditions will apply:

- Bidders may quote for the supply of one or more complete categories.
- Bidders may only quote for the supply of plant and equipment manufactured in member countries of the IBRD, Switzerland & Taiwan.
- A 15% margin of preference in Bid Evaluation will be allowed for Plant and Equipment manufactured in Nigeria.
- The Bidder must have an established Agent in Nigeria with fully equipped Workshop Facilities, Comprehensive Spares, Warehouse and must carry out the Manufacturers Warranty Maintenance.

Bidding documents containing all instructions and specifications may be obtained from:

The Chief Engineer, B.S.A.D.P., P.M.B. 0050

Bauchi State, Bauchi, Nigeria

Or the Authorised office for distribution of bidding documents:

B.A.S.R.A. Ltd., 110/111 Strand
London WC2 ROAA
Telephone: 01-836 8918
Telex: 24973

All applications for Bidding Documents must be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of £100 payable to:

B.A.S.R.A. Ltd.

Completed Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes to the office of the Chief Engineer, B.S.A.D.P., Bauchi by 17.00 Hrs. SUNDAY, 30th AUGUST 1981.

Bids will be opened in Public at the above office at 11.00 Hrs. MONDAY, 31st AUGUST 1981.

Programme Manager
B.S.A.D.P.

Recruitment Opportunities

GREATER LONDON ARTS ASSOCIATION

wishes to appoint a

DIRECTOR

The Greater London Arts Association invites applications for the post of Director following Mr. David Pradley's appointment as Regional Director of the Arts Council of Great Britain. The Association provides advisory and financial support to some 1,500 arts projects in Greater London from a current year budget of £1.3 million. This is a senior arts management post and candidates will need to combine a broad knowledge of the arts with skills in management and negotiation with government agencies, local government and the business community. The salary will match the responsibilities involved. A full job description and application form may be obtained by sending a stamped self-addressed envelope to: The Chairman, Greater London Arts Association, 3 The Mount Square, London, NW3 6SU. Closing date: 27 June.

CLUB MANAGER

A F. a chance to join Hilton International and to be in one of Europe's top small discotheques. Apply with full CV and a photograph to: Hilton International, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0AL.

STONE'S OF BELGRAVIA WINE MERCHANTS

Need enthusiastic assistants, aged between 20 and 30, to be in one of Europe's top small discotheques. Apply with full CV and a photograph to: Hilton International, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0AL.

FOOD & BEVERAGE MANAGER

For position in Saudi Arabia. Good salary, with large experience in food and beverage management. Apply with full CV and a photograph to: Hilton International, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0AL.

TRAINEE ACCOUNTANT

Graduate for C. Accountants City. Relevant degree preferred. Salary by arrangement. Telephone 01-581 5101 KP PERSONNEL AGY

SALES EXECUTIVES

Required by established international co. Must have previous sales ability and live personality. Apply with full CV and a photograph to: Hilton International, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0AL.

MANAGEMENT TRAINING

For position in Saudi Arabia. Good salary, with large experience in food and beverage management. Apply with full CV and a photograph to: Hilton International, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0AL.

BOYS AT DULWICH COLLEGE?

Within minutes of the College and West Dulwich Station. Modern ten room 4 bedrooms, large kitchen and bathroom, study room, integral garage. Private parking overlooking open lawn and trees. G.C.H. Most comfortable. Apply with full CV and a photograph to: Hilton International, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0AL.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN

Within minutes of the College and West Dulwich Station. Modern ten room 4 bedrooms, large kitchen and bathroom, study room, integral garage. Private parking overlooking open lawn and trees. G.C.H. Most comfortable. Apply with full CV and a photograph to: Hilton International, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0AL.

QUEEN'S GATE GARDENS, SW7

Modern ten room 4 bedrooms, large kitchen and bathroom, study room, integral garage. Private parking overlooking open lawn and trees. G.C.H. Most comfortable. Apply with full CV and a photograph to: Hilton International, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0AL.

PROPERTY WANTED

Modern ten room 4 bedrooms, large kitchen and bathroom, study room, integral garage. Private parking overlooking open lawn and trees. G.C.H. Most comfortable. Apply with full CV and a photograph to: Hilton International, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0AL.

WILL THE OWNER OF THE MOST LUXURIOUS PROPERTIES IN THE WEST END OF LONDON

Modern ten room 4 bedrooms, large kitchen and bathroom, study room, integral garage. Private parking overlooking open lawn and trees. G.C.H. Most comfortable. Apply with full CV and a photograph to: Hilton International, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0AL.

COUNTRY PROPERTIES

Modern ten room 4 bedrooms, large kitchen and bathroom, study room, integral garage. Private parking overlooking open lawn and trees. G.C.H. Most comfortable. Apply with full CV and a photograph to: Hilton International, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0AL.

FLAT SHARING

Modern ten room 4 bedrooms, large kitchen and bathroom, study room, integral garage. Private parking overlooking open lawn and trees. G.C.H. Most comfortable. Apply with full CV and a photograph to: Hilton International, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0AL.

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Farming and food

Time for a fresh image for milk

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

Research into the reasons for the decline in milk consumption has shown that the success of price rises in recent years had had a most damaging effect. Consumption rose for years until the mid-1970s with the help of slogans such as "Drink a pint of milk a day".

In recent years the upward path that supported a generation of dairy farmers and milk roundmen has been reversed. It is hard to indicate any single cause for the decline. Milk has suffered from a number of almost simultaneous setbacks.

The invention of instant custard, in which water is added to a yellow powder instead of milk, has robbed milk of sales. Sales of fizzy drinks and fruit juices have risen steadily and the habit of drinking black coffee has increased.

PERSONAL CHOICE



Michelle Dotrice, Richard Easton and Claire Neilson in tonight's episode of the comedy series, Chintz (ITV 8.00pm)

● In THE MAKING OF MANKIND (BBC 2 9.40 pm) tonight Richard Leakey discusses the Neanderthal Man, the species he believes to be the immediate ancestor of modern-day man. This particular subject has been the focus of much controversy in Europe, and has been labelled with the nomenclature Brute. Dr Leakey refutes this and believes that the misconception was based on the discovery of a disassembled skeleton. In the programme he maintains that the evidence cleaned from stone tools that have been excavated proves that they had a strong technological sense. According to the programme Neanderthal Man also had a form of religion and, based on material found in the Shanidar region of Iraq, we see a reconstruction of a "flower burial" which might prove that he also had some sort of ceremonial activity. Perhaps the most spectacular reminder of the species are the magnificent cave drawings at Lascaux which have been filmed for the first time since their closure to the public some twenty years ago. The image reproduction of horses, bison, stag and deer does seem to point to a far more intelligent and skilful ancestor than was once thought.

● PANORAMA'S Gaddafi's Rocket (BBC 1 8.10 pm) is a follow-up to its award-winning investigation into the activities of the Libyan rocket company, Otrab. Following the first programme in October, 1978, which revealed how the company, from a testing ground in Zaïre, was developing a rocket to launch spy satellites, international pressure - mainly from West Germany - forced the company to close down its Central African activities. Now they have re-emerged in Libya, under the patronage of Colonel Gaddafi, to continue the development of the rocket. In his report for Panorama, Philip Tibenham reveals details of deals secretly offered by Otrab to Middle East governments - deals which could spark-off an international incident.

● POOR PIKEMAN (Radio 4 8.00 pm) by Edwin Pearce is a powerful play written to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Peasants' Revolt. Basically it is about the role played by the leader of the uprising, Wat Tyler (Barry Foster). The author challenges the long-held view that Tyler was the force behind the rebellion and portrays him as a victim of his own experience. He was a former soldier whose knowledge of military tactics pushed him reluctantly to the leadership of the peasants. His common sense and matter-of-fact dealing with situations contrasts sharply with his subordinates, such as John Ball (John Rowe), whose brutality and bigotry was the real impetus behind the abortive uprising.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: * STEREO; * BLACK AND WHITE; (R) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Dear

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: Genetics; 7.05 Biology, Brain and Behaviour; 7.30 Analogue Systems; Closedown at 7.55. 9.52 For Schools: Music Time; 10.40 Calendars; 10.45 Interval; 11.00 Photography; 11.25 You and Me (not Schools); 11.40 Everyday Spanish; 12.00 Mind Stretchers. Closedown at 12.05. 1.15 News. 1.30 Heads and Tails. The different coats of animals (r). Closedown at 1.45. 2.01 For Schools: Colleges: Words and Pictures; 2.18 Living in the Iron Age; 2.40 Being Self-employed; Closedown at 3.00. 3.15 Songs of Praise from St John's Methodist Church, Colwyn Bay, introduced by Norman Bray (shown yesterday at 6.40 pm); 3.55 Play School. For the under-fives (shown earlier on BBC 2); 4.20 Chequers Plays Pop. The latest sounds from the pop charts plus a special. Among his guests is Suzie Quatro; 4.40 The All-New Popeye Show. Two cartoons featuring the spinach loving sailor; 5.00 John Cra-

ven's Newsworld. Intelligently presented world news for young people; 5.05 Blue Peter. In anticipation of a change to the good in the weather we are shown how to make a cool and refreshing pudding called Orange Sorbet. 5.35 Paddington goes shopping; 5.40 News read by John Edmunds; 5.55 Nationwide. Regional current-affairs including Watchdog. Hugh Scully's weekly look at complaints of bureaucratic abuse. 6.50 Ask the Family. Robert Robinson asks the questions in a general knowledge quiz between the Burgess family of Cromarty and the Newtons of Solihull. 7.15 The Seven. The crew of the Liberator plan to abandon their spacecraft and await the arrival of the Federation force (r). 8.10 Panorama presented by David Dimbleby. Gaddafi's Rocket is the title and in the programme the author Philip Tibenham reports on how the German rocket company, Otrab, is helping the Libyan leader. (See Personal Choice)

9.00 News read by Richard Baker. 9.25 Film: Butterfield 8 (1960) starring Elizabeth Taylor and Laurence Harvey. Miss Taylor won her first Oscar for her performance as Gloria in this story about a young woman bent on using men the way they used her as a child. The film is based on John O'Hara's novel about a call-girl named Starr Faithful. 11.10 Now Showing. Michael Wood reviews some of the films that were released in May. 11.43 News headlines. 11.45 Education Shop. Advice for parents with school-going children (r). 12.10 am Weather.

BBC2

6.40 am Open University: Dinner at Baron d'Holbach's; 7.05 The Wave-Particle Paradox; 7.30 Images of the City; Closedown at 7.55. 11.00 Play School. For the under-fives presented by Lesley Nightingale and Stuart McGugan. The story is Peter Wiltshire's James Goes Jumping; Closedown at 11.25. 4.50 pm Open University: Classical Greek Drama; 5.15 Intramural Music-Re-arrangements; 5.40 Maths Cycles; 6.05 M101/13 Integration; 6.30 Novel Profiles; 6.55 Play Tennis. Beginners tennis with Derek Horwood. 7.20 News including a sub-titled synopsis for the hard-of-hearing.

7.35 Plants in Action. Alan Jones explains why plants need so much watering. 8.00 Arthur Negus Enjoys. Continuing his journey around the country to places for which he has an affection Mr Negus visits the Georgian House in Bath. Accompanying him is Christopher Hogwood who plays the Jacob Kirckman harpsichord that belongs to the house. 8.15 The Two Ronnies. Comical songs and sketches from Messrs Corbett and Barker including the weekly serial in drag, The Worm that Turned. 8.55 Play Tennis. Beginners tennis with Derek Horwood. 9.00 The Paul Daniels Magic Show. Comedy and Magic from the talented entertainer plus his

Thames

9.30 am For Schools: Estimation and comparison of areas. 9.42 Working in the future. 10.05 What makes the news. 10.23 An introduction to modern art. 10.42 Holidaying in France. 11.05 Insight. For the deaf and hearing-impaired child. 11.22 Cartoons to stir the brain. 11.39 History a castle. 12.00 We'll Tell You a Story. Christopher Lillicrap with tales for the young. 12.10 pm Rainbow. Geoffrey Hayes takes his puppet friends to the seaside. 12.30 Home and Design. This week the home improvement programme takes a look at texture and pattern. 1.00 News read by Peter Sissons. 1.20 Thames News with Robin Houston. 1.30 Crown Court. A couple are accused of attempting to defraud the Social Security Department (r). 2.00 The Riots. Life in a small Irish rural community. 2.30 Film: The Viking Queen (1966) starring Donald Houston and Carita. A young queen has

trouble with some of her subjects who do not agree with her peaceful policies and yearn to fight the Romans. 4.15 Cartoon: Bugs Bunny in Which is Which? 4.20 Graham's Ark. Graham Thornton with a story about the ark of Buff Orpingtons as pets. 4.45 Spectrum. Linda Kennedy and Mike Sheridan unravel some more mysteries of science. 5.15 Money-go-round. Joan Sinton and Tony Bastable out what the Duke of Edinburgh thinks of this year's Design Council Awards. 5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News with Andrew Gardner and Rita Carter. 6.35 Crossroads. Diana Hunter is grilling by an American lawyer. 7.00 The Krypton Factor. Presented by Gordon Burns. Three men and a girl are the first contestants in a new series of brain and brawn contests to find this year's Superperson. 7.30 Coronation Street. One of the locals leaves the Rover's Return and promptly collapses. 8.00 Chintz. More comic situations featuring the Carters, a comfortably off couple from Cheshire. 8.30 World in Action. A report on the IRA's propaganda battle with the British Government plus an examination of the world's pressure on Western leaders to compromise on the hunger strikers. 9.00 The Sweeney. Detective Inspector Regan not only has to deal with the KGB and the Marxist Revolutionary Front but also with Morecombe and Wise (r). 10.00 News. 10.30 Films: Buck and the Preacher (1971) starring Sidney Poitier and Harry Belafonte. A gang led by an unscrupulous white man, hunts black people and sells them as cheap labour. One particular person they are after is a former Union cavalryman who proves more than the rest. 12.25 am Close with Jane Lapotnik reading an extract from Bertrand Russell's The Conquest of Happiness.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News. 6.10 Farming Week. 6.30 Day. 6.35 The Week on 4. 6.45 Miles Kingston. 9.00 News. 9.05 The Week's Composer. Ernest Chausson records, incl. mono. 10.00 Music for Clavichord. 10.35 Clarinet and Piano. 10.45 Vaughan Williams, recital. 11.00 Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra. Concert: Wagner, Siegfried, Shostakovich. 1.00 pm News. 1.05 Lunchtime Concert. Piano recital: Berg, Bartok, Debussy. 2.05 Maritime Musicale. Concert: Wagner, Elgar, Smetana, Mahler, Enesco. 3.10 Pianists in Profile. 3.15 Sviatoslav Richter. 4.10 New Records. 4.15 Szymanowski. 4.35 News. 4.40 Music for Pleasure. 7.00 Sibelius. 7.05 Symphony No. 6 on record. 7.30 Crowded Hours (new series). Conversations with Alan Turing. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.30 Science Now. 11.00 Book at Bedtime. 11.15 The Financial World Tonight. 11.30 News in Parliament. 12.00 News. 1.00 am Listen with Mother. 1.10 For Schools Singing Together. 1.20 The Archers. 1.30 The Monday Play. 1.40 The Archers. 1.50 The Archers. 2.00 The Archers. 2.10 The Archers. 2.20 The Archers. 2.30 The Archers. 2.40 The Archers. 2.50 The Archers. 3.00 The Archers. 3.10 The Archers. 3.20 The Archers. 3.30 The Archers. 3.40 The Archers. 3.50 The Archers. 4.00 The Archers. 4.10 The Archers. 4.20 The Archers. 4.30 The Archers. 4.40 The Archers. 4.50 The Archers. 5.00 The Archers. 5.10 The Archers. 5.20 The Archers. 5.30 The Archers. 5.40 The Archers. 5.50 The Archers. 6.00 The Archers. 6.10 The Archers. 6.20 The Archers. 6.30 The Archers. 6.40 The Archers. 6.50 The Archers. 7.00 The Archers. 7.10 The Archers. 7.20 The Archers. 7.30 The Archers. 7.40 The Archers. 7.50 The Archers. 8.00 The Archers. 8.10 The Archers. 8.20 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IN MEMORIAM
TE (NORTHUMBRIA) FIELD
In memory of the late Mr. T. E. Field, who died on June 1, 1981, at the age of 80. He was born on June 1, 1901, in the village of ...

BIRTHS
ANGRAM - On June 1, 1981, at St. Mary's, Paddington, in the city of London, the wife of Mr. ...

BIRTHDAYS
BEST WISHES SHOWN ON YOUR 18th with love from ...

MARRIAGES
BISHOP - On June 1, 1981, at St. Mary's, Paddington, in the city of London, the wife of Mr. ...

DEATHS
AMOS, REX - On June 1, 1981, at St. Mary's, Paddington, in the city of London, the wife of Mr. ...

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CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS
PINSTRIP CLUB
An intimate much Victorian-style elegant club. Frequenting by members and visitors. ...

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PERSONAL COLUMNS
HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
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PERSONAL COLUMNS
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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,540

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SHORT LETS
MARBLE ARCH - Lovely garden flat, 2 bedrooms, large living room, ...

W.2 GOLDRUSH
Recently modernised to a high standard, with a light standard, with a light standard, with a light standard, ...

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